

WARD'S
BUXTON,
Matlock & Castleton
GUIDE.

WIRKSWORTH:
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Country

THE
BUXTON,
MATLOCK & CASTLETON
GUIDE,

CONTAINING
CONCISE ACCOUNTS OF THESE AND OTHER
Remarkable Places & Objects,
CHIEFLY IN THE NORTHERLY PARTS
OF THE INTERESTING COUNTY OF
D E R B Y.

BY THE REV. R. WARD.

The Second Edition, much Improved.

WIRKSWORTH:

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BRITISH
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GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT
CHURCH OF CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

FROM the rapid sale, which the former edition of this Manual has met with, the author of it indulges the hope, that his intention in composing it has been accomplished, and that it has been found useful to strangers who visit the highly interesting scenes in the Peak of Derbyshire. He has been induced by the success it has experienced, to undertake the revisal of it; and having himself repeatedly visited the various places and objects to which these pages relate, as well as consulted several authors who have described them, he flatters himself he has been enabled to render the present edition still more useful and acceptable than the former to the persons, for whose accommodation it has been compiled.

CONTENTS.

	page		page
Arborelow	7	Lime Houses	72
Bagshaw Cavern	85	Mam Tor	77
Bakewell	59	Matlock	26
Barrows	8	Middleton	45
Buxton	62	Monsal Dale	61
Castleton	77	Marvel Stones	74
Caverns	37	Oakover	47
Chatsworth	52	Odin Mine	78
Chee Tor	72	Peak	2
Cromford	15	Peak Cavern	82
Derby	21	Poole's Hole	79
Dove Dale	44	Romantic Rocks	39
Elden Hole	76	Roorer	9
Eyam	49	Speedwell Mine	79
Fossils	14	Strata	10
Haddon	56	Vegetables	18
Ilam	47	Well Ebbing and Flowing	74
Kedleston	24	Willersley	25
Lead Mines	16	Wingfield South	50

DISTANCES.

From Matlock Bath		From Buxton	
To Alfreton	11 miles	To Ashbourn	20 miles
Ashbourn	11	Bakewell	12
Bakewell	10	Castleton	11
Buxton	22	Chatsworth	15
Castleton	24	Chesterfield	23
Chatsworth	10	Congleton	15
Chesterfield	11	Derby	33
Derby	17	Leek	12
Edensor	10	Macclesfield	11
Mansfield	20	Manchester	24
Manchester	44	Middleton Stony	12
Middleton Stony	16	Nottingham	43
Nottingham	23	Sheffield	24
Sheffield	24	Stockport	17
Stockport	37	Tideswell	6
Tideswell	17	London	140
London	148		

The Peak

OF

DERBYSHIRE.

VERY remarkable is the county of Derby for its great variety of surface. If we take a view of it, beginning at its south and proceeding to its north west extremity, we first behold a champaign country, then gentle eminences which, by a gradual transition, are succeeded by hills that increase, as we advance, in height and extent, and terminate at length in that mountainous tract called the Low Peak, or Wapontake, and the High Peak. This very elevated part of the county has its continuity broken, and is intersected, in various places, by vallies or dales abounding with beautiful scenery; and among the hills that compose the High Peak the most conspicuous are Ax Edge, about three miles south west of Buxton, Lord's-Seat, near Castle-ton, and Kinder Scout, near the north west extremity of the county. According to the late trigonometrical survey, the altitude of Holme-moss on Kinder Scout, is 1859 feet, and that of Ax Edge, and Lord's Seat,

which are of equal height, 1751 feet above the level of the sea. From Kinder Scout, on account of its great elevation, the view is said to include Stockport, Manchester, Bolton, Warrington, Chester, &c. and some of the mountains of North Wales.

In the Wapontake also there are many considerable eminences and among these Brassington moor, Alport hill near Wirksworth, and Crich cliff may be distinguished, as presenting the most extensive prospects. From the two former places, in a clear day, the Wrekin in Shropshire is visible, though fifty miles distant; and from a tower, or prospect house, erected by the late Francis Hurt, Esq. near Crich, the view extends, not only over a large part of Derbyshire, but also into the adjoining counties, and in a favourable state of the atmosphere, even to Lincoln cathedral.

Though the air of a country so elevated as the Peak must be cold and piercing; yet the protracted lives of its inhabitants shew, that it is a situation not unfriendly to health: but there is one disorder, the bronchocele, that prevails, chiefly among females, not only in various parts of the Peak, but also in places at a considerable distance from it. This enlargement of the glands of the throat is often termed the Derby neck; though that disease is much more endemic in some other mountainous countries, and especially among the inhabitants of the Alps.

It has often been remarked, that a much larger quantity of rain falls in the immediate neighbourhood of mountains than in the midst of extensive plains. The average annual quantity that fell during the ten years ending with 1812 was, at

Chatsworth 27 . 52 inches,

London 24 . 31 ———

Nottingham 22 . 79 ———

Violent storms of rain or hail are not unusual in the Peak; but one that far exceeded any thing of the kind, which the oldest person remembered, occurred in the southerly part of it about five o'clock in the afternoon of the twelfth of May, 1811. Showers of hailstones fell congealed together in clusters of large dimensions, the roofs were stripped off from buildings, trees were either broken off or torn up by the roots, and the fences were levelled in the course of this violent hurricane; yet it is very remarkable that no one suffered any personal injury from it.

A singular phenomenon that is sometimes observed at Matlock and its neighbourhood, is a lunar rainbow. There appeared a very beautiful one betwixt the hours of eight and nine in the evening of the tenth of September, 1802; and another betwixt seven and eight in the evening of the first of October, 1803. In this country also was observed that extraordinary luminous arch, undoubtedly of the electric kind, which extended from the eastern to the western horizon, and was seen throughout the kingdom soon after nine o'clock in the

evening of Sunday, the eleventh of September 1814: It continued in full splendour about half an hour, and then gradually faded away.

When the general survey of the country was taken, one of the stations of observation was fixed at Alport hill, where

the latitude was found to be.... $53^{\circ} 3' 43''$

and the longitude $1^{\circ} 32' 22''$ west.

Alport is about four miles south of Matlock; and as the longitude at these places is the same or nearly so, the clocks at both should be rather more than six minutes later than those in London.

The Peak of Derbyshire has often supplied a favourite theme to the tourist, and is visited by a multitude of strangers on very different accounts; by the invalid, in hopes of deriving benefit from its salutary waters; by the admirer of the beauties of nature, to view its delightful dales; by the botanist, to inspect the numerous indigenous plants with which its varied surface is clothed; by the mineralogist, to investigate its minerals and fossils; and by the geologist, to contemplate its diversified features, examine its strata, and explore its caverns and mines.

The antiquary also is here gratified with the sight of various objects peculiarly suited to his taste. Our notice of a few of these may be introduced with observing, that there is one very remarkable monument of

antiquity not far from Newhaven, an inn adjoining the road that leads from Ashbourn to Buxton. Betwixt Hurdlow House and Pike Hall appear vestiges of a road that the Romans are supposed to have formed betwixt Buxton and their station at Little Chester, near Derby; and at a short distance from that part of it which lies betwixt two and three miles north east of Newhaven is *Arborlow*, or *Arbelows*, a Druidical area surrounded by a ditch and a high rampart or bank. The form of the area, is nearly that of an ellipsis, as it measures 46 yards from east to west, and 52 in a contrary direction; within it are about thirty large stones lying on its border; they are rough and unhewn, and are, for the most part, about five feet long, three broad, and one thick; there are also a few stones near the centre of the area; the width of the surrounding ditch is about six yards; and the height of the bank, which encompasses the ditch, is, on the inside, about five; it is apparently formed of the earth thrown up from the ditch, and measures on the top nearly 270 yards. To the inclosed area there are two entrances, each ten or twelve yards wide, opening to the north and south; and on the east side of the southern entrance is a small low or tumulus, into which an aperture was made some years ago, and the horns of a stag were found in it. There are also many lows or barrows on the neighbouring eminences; and in some of them urns, human bones, and other memorials of remote ages have been discovered.

On the north west side of Peak Forest, about two miles from Chapel en le Frith, there was another Druidical monument, similar in form to that at Arborlow; but it is now very much altered by the operations of agriculture.

The names of many villages and single houses in the Peak were evidently derived from the lows or barrows contiguous to them. These barrows have cavities or dimples in their summits; and that they were places of sepulture has been fully ascertained. In the year 1782 an opening was made by some labouring men into the lower extremity of a large one near Chelmorton. They soon came to a vault containing the remains of several human bodies lying with their heads towards the centre of the mount. The bones, says Pilkington, had never been disturbed, and were apparently united at the different joints, but by the slightest motion were found to be entirely loose and unconnected: upon examination, they were discovered to be remarkably strong and sound; the ribs, in particular, were so little decayed, that they would easily bend without breaking. Those who saw the bones, thought they were uncommonly large; and it was imagined that the persons, to whom they belonged, must have been, when alive, at least seven feet high; the teeth were sound and perfect. From the number of bones and skulls, and the dimensions of the vault, it was supposed that it contained about four or five bodies; and though only one vault was opened, it was presumed that others were carried throughout the whole circumference of

the mount, and that they might be about twenty in number.

A few miles east of Arborlow and south of Bake-well is Stanton Moor, a rocky, uncultivated waste, on which are numerous remains of antiquity, as rocking stones, barrows, rock-basins, circles of erect stones, &c. which have generally been supposed of Druidical origin. A just idea of these can be obtained only from inspection; but though even a minute description cannot be satisfactory, yet there is one object so very remarkable, that it must not be altogether omitted here; and that is an assemblage of gritstone rocks close to the village of Birchover, extending in length between 70 and 80 yards, and rising to the height of 40 or 50. They are distinguished by the name of *Rotor* rocks, an appellation derived from the rocking-stones towards the summit. One of these near the east end is a large block supposed to weigh about 50 tons, which might formerly be easily stirred by the pressure of the hand, but is now immoveable, having been forced from its equilibrium by the mischievous efforts of fourteen young men, who assembled here on Whitsunday, in the year 1799. In another part of this singular mount are seven stones, two or three of them of large size, piled on each other, which may be shaken by the pressure of one hand, and that at several places.

It is to be observed, that the huge masses which form the summit of the *Rotor* rocks, range from east

to west along the middle of the hill, and have had a narrow passage, and two chambers, or caves, cut within them. The largest cave has a remarkable sound, and has thence been named the Echo; its length is 16 feet, its width 12 and its height about 9. A hollow in the stone which forms the highest point of these rocks, the late Mr. Rooke supposes to have been a rock-basin; he also mentions a second rock-basin on the north west side.

The reader, who desires to have a particular description of the various remains of antiquity to be found near this place, may be referred to that gentleman's account of them in the different volumes of the *Archæologia*.

It is well known that the country to which these pages principally relate, abounds with deep cavities; yet neither from these openings, nor from any excavations that have been formed by persons working in the bowels of the earth, has there ever been found an opportunity of examining its contents to a greater depth than about 300 yards below its surface: and hence we perceive how justly it was remarked by a very learned prelate, that the endeavours of man to explore the structure of the earth may be aptly compared to the attempts of a gnat to discover the internal formation of an elephant. Yet ought we not, from the little progress, that our most diligent inquiries enable us to make, to be deterred from the perusal of any page of the book of nature; which, according to the observation of another inge-

nious philosopher, is open to all men, and written in characters equally intelligible to all nations; but, perhaps, in no part of the world more than in Derbyshire; for, as he adds, amidst all the apparent confusion and disorder of the *strata* in that mountainous country, there is, nevertheless, one constant invariable order in their arrangement, and of their various productions, or impressions, of animal, vegetable, and mineral substances.

The order of the strata is this:

1. Argillaceous Grit,
2. Silicious Grit,
3. Shale,
4. Lime-stone,
5. Toad-stone.

Then lime-stone and toad-stone alternately; but it is to be remarked, that only three strata of toad-stone have been found, and that the lime-stone under the third is the utmost limit to which the researches of the miner have extended.

Between the lime-stone and toad-stone are small beds of clay, from which the warm springs are said to issue.

Argillaceous grit is attended with beds of clay, iron-stone, and coal; the two former containing a great variety of the impressions of vegetables; and wherever these forms occur, they are said to be a certain indication that coal is there to be found.

Silicious grit is composed of granulated quartz, or quartz pebbles; very small topazine and rose-coloured quartz, in hexagonal prisms, or with double pyramids detached, are found in a yellowish earth near Buxton, and are called Buxton diamonds; other silicious substances found in various parts of the Peak, are the free-stone employed for buildings, the mill-stone grit serving for mill-stones, and chert, horn-stone, or petrosilex used in the manufacture of earthenware.

Shale, or *Schistus*, is of a dark brown, or blackish colour, and appears like indurated clay; no impressions of animal or vegetable bodies are found in it: it contains sulphur, and it decomposes in laminæ when exposed to the atmosphere.

Lime-stone seems wholly composed of marine exuviae, and abounds with a variety of shells, entrochi, coralloids, madrepores, &c. in it are found the principal veins or fissures, which contain galena, sulphuret and native oxide of zinc, a variety of ochres, fluors, barytes, calcareous crystallizations, pyrites, &c. rottenstone is sometimes found on its surface, particularly near Wardlow Mire and Ashford; it forms a great variety of marbles: some of a light colour, hard, but incapable of much polish, is found near the road, called the *Via Gellia*, leading to Hopton, and thence called *Hopton stone*; a beautiful mottled grey marble, abounding with entrochi, is obtained at *Monyash*; at *Ashford*, *Matlock*, *Mousaldale* and other

places, is found a fine black marble, that will bear so high a polish, as to reflect objects as strongly as a mirror.

Toadstone is exceedingly irregular in appearance, thickness, and disposition; not laminated, but consisting of one entire mass, and breaking alike in all directions: it often appears of a dark brown colour with a greenish tinge, and superficially full of holes, which are sometimes filled with calcareous spar; mineral veins in the lime-stone strata above and below it are intersected by this substance; it admits scarcely any water to filter through it; it is only of partial occurrence, and does not uniformly prevail like the lime-stone strata; nor is it like them equally thick, but varies in this respect from 6 feet to 600, filling up fissures in the lower lime-stone strata; and from the different circumstances attending it the ingenious Mr. Whitehurst inferred it to be as much a lava as that which flows from Hecla, Vessuvius, or *Ætna*.

It only remains to be observed concerning the strata that, wherever gritstone occurs, it is incumbent on shale, and shale on lime-stone; that where the former are wanting, the lime-stone strata scarcely ever lie horizontally, but are observed to dip towards those parts of the country where gritstone appears on the surface; and that the degree of their declination is various, being very much influenced by vallies, which sometimes cause them to assume an almost perpendicular direction. In consequence of this arrangement

The inferior strata, in many situations, are found at the surface, or nearly so; and the miner is enabled to penetrate them in search of lead ore, and to carry on his operations with much greater facility and success.

IT is not intended, nor would it be proper in a work of this kind, to enter into any profound reasoning concerning the nature and disposition of the different strata of the earth; that would be to invade the province of the geologist: but there is one reflection so very obvious, that it may well be admitted here. Every one must have seen what a multitude of different shells, that is, of marine productions, compose the substance of marble and limestone; and hence the inference seems irresistible, that these bodies themselves must have been generated in the same element as those productions, and that the ground on which we tread, must have been long time overspread by the waters of the ocean.

But we may advance a step farther, and observe, that not only the impressions of various vegetables, but also the forms of different animals, have been found imbedded in the earth; and this at a vast distance from the countries, in which they are now produced, and to which they appear by nature to be confined. Thus, for instance, at Ashford a small *alligator* has been found in black marble, and also the tail and back of a *crocodile*, said to be now preserved in a cabinet at Brussels: and may not these fossil bodies be regarded as awful memorials of that universal deluge, which

was ordained as a punishment for the sins of the primeval race of men?" But upon this interesting subject let us attend to the words of a learned and philosophical divine. He observes, that "the Alps, the Apennines, the Pyrenees, Libanus, Atlas, and Ararat, every mountain of every country under heaven, where search has been made, all conspire in one uniform and universal proof, that the sea has covered their highest summits. If we examine the earth, we shall find the Moose Deer, natives of America, buried in Ireland; Elephants, natives of Asia and Africa, buried in the midst of England; Crocodiles, natives of the Nile, in the heart of Germany; shell fish, never known but in the American Seas, together with skeletons of Whales, in the most inland regions of England; trees of vast dimensions with their roots and tops, at the bottom of mines and marls, found in regions where such trees were never known to grow, nay where it is demonstrably impossible they could grow." The conclusion from these facts cannot be better expressed than in the words of another excellent writer. Those fossil bodies, says he, seemingly so useless, do speak demonstration to our senses; and are a language which is understood by the most common capacities, having been appointed by Providence, as so many standing monuments of the most remarkable of all transactions; and are, with regard to the history of Moses, the same as medals to the Roman history.

That there were lead mines in Derbyshire, at least as early as the times, when the Romans were in possession of this country, is evident from several pigs of lead

that have been found with Roman inscriptions. One that was discovered on Cromford Moor in the year 1777 bore the following,

IMP. CAES. HADRIANI. AVG. MEI. LVI.
which was thus interpreted by the Rev. S. Pegge, The sixth legion inscribes this in memory of the Emperor Hadrian.

From the name *Odin*, given to one of the mines near Castleton, it has been inferred, that they were also known to the Saxons, and that in times prior to the introduction of Christianity.

In very early times, the mines and miners were governed by certain customs and regulations, which in the year 1287 were ascertained by a jury under a commission granted for the purpose. A certain proportion of the ore obtained in the *King's field*, that is, in the principal tract of the country containing lead, is due to the crown; and the mineral duties from time immemorial have been let on lease. The present farmer of those in the High Peak is the Duke of Devonshire; and of those in the Wapontake of Wirksworth, Richard Arkwright Esq. They have each a Steward and bar-master in the districts they hold of the crown: the steward presides as judge in the Barmote courts, where all disputes respecting the mines are determined by juries. The courts for the Peak are held at Monyash, and for the Wapontake, at Wirksworth, where a handsome Moot Hall has lately been erected. The principal duty of the bar master is, to put miners in possession of the

veins they have discovered, to superintend the measurement of the ore, and receive the dues of the levee of the crown. In general a thirteenth of the ore is due in the King's field, but the proportion taken is seldom more than a twentyfifth. The dish, trough, or hoppet, by which the ore is measured, contains, in the High Peak sixteen pints, in the Wapontake only fourteen. The brazen dish, by which others are regulated, is kept at Wirksworth.

In the limestone strata of the Peak lead ore is found in several forms, but most commonly in that of *galena* or sulphuret of lead: that kind called *slickenside*, having a smooth glossy surface, is found in the Odin mine. If this singular substance is pierced by the miner's tool, or divided by a sharp wedge, it first begins to crackle, in a few minutes after it rends with considerable violence, exploding with a noise as if blasted with gunpowder; and the incautious miners are sometimes wounded by the fragments. This extraordinary phenomenon occurs in the Haycliff and Ladywash mines at Eyam, as well as at the Odin mines. In the first of these a prodigious explosion happened in the year 1738; at which time, as we are informed by Mr. Whiteburst, the quantity of 200 barrels, each containing between three and four hundred weight, was blown out at one blast. An occurrence similar to this takes place with unannealed glass; if it be scratched, though it be but by a grain of sand falling upon it, it will seem to consider of it for some time, or even a day, and will then break into a thousand pieces.

Another very important production of the mines is the lapis calaminaris or oxide of zinc: this is obtained in considerable quantities in the parishes of Bonsall, Wirksworth, Matlock, Yowlgrave, Castleton, &c. Petroleum or rock-oil, being bitumen in a liquid state, is found in the black marble at Ashford; and elastic bitumen, a substance peculiar to this county, much resembling the caoutchouc, or Indian rubber, occurs in the cavities of the Odin mine. This mine extends far into that mountain, where alone is found the fluor, commonly called Blue John; a substance, which, on account of its extraordinary beauty, is wrought into a great variety of elegant forms, such as urns, vases, columns, &c. Similar articles are also made of the different calcareous spars, of gypsum or alabaster, and of marble, and are sold in numerous shops at Matlock, Buxton, Castleton, and Derby.

For further information on this subject, the reader may consult "Mawe's Mineralogy of Derbyshire," his "Catalogue of Minerals," or other works of a similar description.

Among the remarkable vegetable productions of this county may be mentioned valerian, elecampane, and chamomile. Of the two former only a small quantity is grown here; but about 80 acres of land are planted with chamomile, the cultivation of which furnishes employment for a great number of women and children in the parishes of Ashover, Morton, Shirland, and North and South Winfield.

Messrs. Lysons, in their account of Derbyshire lately published, have given from Pilkington and other authorities the following list of its indigenous plants, that are either rare or not of general occurrence.

<i>Dipsacus pilosus</i>	<i>Between Derby and Spondon</i>
<i>Galium montanum</i>	<i>Middleton-dale</i>
<i>Polemonium cæruleum</i>	<i>Matlock and elsewhere</i>
<i>Alisma ranunculoides</i>	<i>Between Derby & Buxton</i>
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	<i>Matlock and Darley</i>
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	<i>Matlock and Chee-tor</i>
<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	<i>Pinxton and Newton-wood</i>
<i>Arbutus uva ursi</i>	<i>Woodlands</i>
<i>Saxifraga cæspitosa</i>	<i>Castleton</i>
—— <i>hypnoides</i>	<i>Castleton</i>
<i>Silene nutans</i>	<i>Middleton-dale</i>
<i>Arenaria verna</i>	<i>Amongst lead mines</i>
<i>Sedum dasphyllum</i>	<i>Pinxton</i>
<i>Rubus chamaemorus</i>	<i>Mountains bord. on Cheshire</i>
<i>Ranunculus lingua</i>	<i>South Normanton</i>
<i>Trollius europæus</i>	<i>Litton-dale</i>
<i>Ajuga Alpina</i>	<i>Mount above Castleton</i>
<i>Galeopsis versicolor</i>	<i>Between Matlock & Duffield</i>
<i>Arabis hispida</i>	<i>Middleton-dale</i>
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	<i>Matlock</i>
<i>Iberis nudicaulis</i>	<i>Middleton-dale</i>
<i>Erysimum cheiranthoides</i>	<i>Near Ashbourn</i>
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	<i>Near Buxton</i>
<i>Lathyrus hirsutus</i>	<i>South Normanton</i>
<i>Vicia sylvatica</i>	<i>Near Matlock Bath</i>
<i>Lactuca virosa</i>	<i>Matlock</i>

<i>Carduus eriophorus</i>	<i>Matlock</i>
<i>Gnaphalium dioicum</i>	<i>Near Hayfield</i>
<i>Viola lutea</i>	<i>Dove-dale and elsewhere</i>
<i>Satyrion hircinum</i>	<i>Crick</i>
<i>Ophrys cordata</i>	<i>Moor near Chatsworth</i>
<i>Osmunda lunaria</i>	<i>Dethick</i>
<i>Polypodium calcareum</i>	<i>Middleton-dale</i>
————— <i>dryopteris</i>	} <i>Chiuley-hill</i>
<i>Pteris crispa</i>	
<i>Lycopodium alpinum</i>	
————— <i>selagnoides</i>	
————— <i>inundatum</i>	
<i>Cyathea regia</i>	<i>Limestone rocks</i>

THE FOLLOWING AROUND NEAR BUXTON AND
ELSEWHERE.

<i>Cistus helianthemus</i>	<i>Dwarf cistus or sun-flower</i>
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	<i>Round leaved bell-flower</i>
<i>Carduus helenioides</i>	<i>Downy thistle</i>
<i>Viola grandiflora</i>	<i>Yellow rock violet</i>
<i>Parnassia</i>	<i>Grass of Parnassus</i>

To these may be added the heaths, such as *Erica vulgaris* and *Erica tetralix*, which give a beautiful purple tint to the uncultivated moors of the peak.



The account that remains to be given of various objects and places alluded to in the title page, may be preceded by a few remarks, and they can be but few,

concerning Derby, the County Town, and Kedleston, the elegant Mansion of Lord Scarsdale situated near it.

DERBY is computed to contain at present about 13,000 inhabitants, and every year appears to add to its population. It contains five churches, one of which, viz. that of All Saints, is the great ornament of the town. Its beautiful and much admired gothic tower was erected in the reign of Henry VIII. and is said to be 178 feet high; the body of the Church is in the Grecian style, and was built after the designs of Gibbs in the years 1723, 1724, and 1725. In the south part of the chancel is the burial place of the noble family of Cavendish, for whom there are several monuments. Against the south wall is that of the celebrated Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury,* with her effigies in a recumbent attitude. The epitaph after recording her birth and four marriages, with her issue by her second husband, William Cavendish, adds, “*hæc inclitissima Elizabetha Salopiæ comitissa, Ædium de Chatsworth, Hardwick and Oldcotes, magnificentiâ*

* An open rupture took place betwixt this imperious woman and the Earl her husband; and Overton, at that time Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry endeavoured to bring about a reconciliation betwixt them. In a long letter, written with this view, he observes, “Some will say in yr. L. behalfe tho’ the Countesse is a sharpe and bitter shrewe, and therefore like enough to shorten yr. liefe if shee should kepe yow company: In deede my good Lo. I have heard some say so; but if shrewdnesse or sharpenesse may be a just canse of sep-a-con betweene a man and wiefe, I thinke fewe men in Englande woulde keepe their wives longe; for it is a com-on jeste, yet trewe in some sense, that there is but one shrewe in all the worlde, and ev-y man hathe her; and so ev-y man might be ridd of his wiefe, that wold be rydd of a shrewe. Lodges Illustrations, Vol. III.

clarissimarum fabricatrix, vitam hanc transitoriam XIII die mensis Februarii, anno ab incarn. Domini 1607-8, ac circa annum ætatis suæ 87. finivit." Henry Cavendish, grandson of the third Duke of Devonshire, one of the most eminent chemists and natural philosophers of the age, of whom it has been said by Sir Humphrey Davy, that "since the death of Sir Isaac Newton, England has sustained no scientific loss so great as that of Cavendish," was interred in the family vault, in the month of March, 1810.

The other public buildings here are a County and a Town hall, a Gaol a handsome Assembly room, a Theatre, and a General Infirmary. The building last mentioned was erected a few years ago on a grand scale, and no expense has been spared to render it as commodious as possible: but, in the opinion of some persons, it appears a subject of regret, that the plan and expenditure were not regulated with so much attention to economy as to render the establishment less dependent on future contributions,

As Derby is situated on the banks of the Derwent, several manufactures that require the aid of water, have been established in its vicinity; such as a silk-mill, cotton mills, white-lead-works, iron-works, &c. here also is a very lofty tower, erected by Messrs. Cox, for the purpose of making shot.

The silk-mill, which is the first of the kind ever erected in England, was built by John Lombe, an ex-

cellent mechanic, who travelled into Italy, to procure drawings or models of the complicated machines employed in the mills there. Having accomplished his purpose, his design was discovered, and he with difficulty escaped the immediate vengeance of the people, who at that time exclusively enjoyed the advantage of possessing such machinery. Returning to this country he obtained a patent in 1718 for the term of fourteen years; but before the expiration of it he died, and it was strongly suspected, that he fell a victim to the resentment of the Italians, which pursued him to his native land, and effected his destruction by poison.

In this town are the marble works of Mr. Brown. which are of great extent, as marble of various kinds is cut here and polished by means of a steam engine and ingenious machinery; it is then formed into elegant chimney-pieces, monuments, &c. &c. and the proprietor is ever ready to gratify the curiosity of those, who are desirous of viewing the different operations carried on in his works.

Equally attentive are Messrs. Blore and Barker to the accommodation of those, who visit their china-works, which were established here about the year 1750 by the ingenious Mr. Duesbury: they have since been very greatly enlarged and improved, and the porcelain made here is celebrated for the superior excellence of its painting; the gilding and burnishing also are exceedingly rich and beautiful.

In the environs of Derby are many pleasant walks ; some of them presenting views of the river and rich meadows, which contribute no less to the amenity of the place than to its prosperity ; but it is at a neat Prospect-house erected by Samuel Richardson, Esq. on Windmill-hill, that the beauty of this extremely delightful country may be contemplated with the greatest advantage.

At the distance of three miles from Derby the late Lord Scarsdale built a handsome inn, for the reception of those strangers, who might wish to make use of a bath within his park, or to visit his celebrated mansion at *Kedleston*. The water that springs up at the bath, is of the sulphureous kind, similar to that at Harrowgate, and is much esteemed for its antiscorbutic qualities. The park is about five miles in circumference ; and at the entrance into it there is a grove of venerable oaks, some of them of very uncommon magnitude. The road passes through this grove, and afterwards over an elegant stone bridge of three arches to the house, a superb building 360 feet in extent ; consisting of a centre, and two pavilions connected with the main building by corridors of the Doric order. That to the right contains the kitchen and other offices ; that to the left consists of the private apartments of the family. Amidst the uniform elegance and splendour of this noble house, the *hall* and the *saloon* are entitled to particular notice. The former is an extremely magnificent room, planned after the ancient Greek model, measuring 67 feet 3 inches by 42 feet, and 40 feet in height. The ceiling rises to the top of the house, has three sky-

lights in it, and is supported by twenty fluted columns of beautifully variegated alabaster, 25 feet in height. The saloon is of a circular form, crowned with a dome, ornamented with rich stucco-work, finished in octagon compartments with roses: its dimensions are, 42 feet in diameter, 24 feet to the cornice which is extremely rich, 55 feet to the top of the cupola, and 62 to the extremity of the sky-light. This room is decorated with a chandelier, branches, and exquisite stucco-work by Rose, and presents such a combination of elegance and splendour as is rarely to be seen.

Almost every room of this noble mansion is enriched with paintings of great excellence; among which a picture by Claude Lorenze in the drawing room, a landscape by Cuyp, and above all a large piece in the library by Rembrandt, the subject of which is Daniel interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dream, are usually distinguished as entitled to the highest admiration.

It ought not to be unnoticed, with regard to this house, that in its utility is happily combined with extraordinary magnificence; and that, in both these respects the skill and ingenuity of the architect, Adams, have here been signally displayed.

The manor of Kedleston (Cheteleston) was, at the time of taking the domesday Survey, part of the large property of Henry de Ferrars: it was held under the Ferrars family by that of Curson or Curzon, as early as the reign of Henry I. This ancient family frequently

represented the County in Parliament, Sir John Curzon was created a Baronet in 1641. Sir Nathaniel Curzon the fifth baronet was, in 1760, created Baron Scarsdale of Kedleston, and was father of Nathaniel Lord Scarsdale, the present Lord of the manor of Kedleston.

MATLOCK BATH.

The situation of *Matlock Bath* is in the bosom of a deep valley by the side of the Derwent. This river is formed by the confluence of several small streams, which rising in that wild, unfrequented part of Derbyshire, called the Woodlands, are united near Hathersage. It afterwards visits Chatsworth; and three miles farther southward is augmented by the river Wye, which rises near Buxton, and having passed by Ashford and Bakewell, falls into this river at Rowsley: then pursuing its course through the middle of the county, the Derwent passes by Darley, Matlock, Belper and Duffield, and falls into the Trent a few miles below Derby. The turnpike road from Derby to Bakewell, which in some parts is very recently formed, near the river, is conducted through vallies of extraordinary beauty: but among these none is so much celebrated as that in which Matlock Bath is situated. But though Nature has lavished numberless charms on this delightful dale, yet little more than a century has elapsed since it first began to emerge from obscurity; and that in consequence of a spring of warm water being discovered in it. This happened about the year 1698; and the spring having soon after acquired some reputation on

account of its medical qualities, a house or two were erected near it for the accommodation of visitors. As the number of these increased, the houses were gradually enlarged and rendered commodious; and Matlock, in a few years, became the general rendezvous of the neighbouring gentry, who passed much time together here, composing, as it were, but one family, and uniting to form a most agreeable society. The reputation of the place was at length more generally diffused; and it is now become the favourite resort of the gay and the valetudinary; of whom there is frequently a greater influx than it can supply with suitable accommodation; though in consequence of two other warm springs being discovered here at different periods, the buildings have been multiplied to such an extent, that they are now computed to be capable of receiving about 400 persons in addition to the regular inhabitants. Before the discovery of the springs, no trace of a wheel had ever been seen in the dale, which was chiefly covered with wood; but, after that event, a road for carriages was formed along the western bank of the river. The valley itself is about two miles in length, and it runs, not without several considerable deviations, in a north and south direction. It terminates, towards the north, near Matlock Bridge; and at its south end it is separated from the populous village of Cromford by an immense limestone rock, called *Scarthin* rock, through one end of which the turnpike road has been formed by blasting the stone with gunpowder. It has often been mentioned as a subject of regret that, in doing this, the rock was not merely perforated, and a rude arch left

over the passage; since such a vestibule to this romantic dale would have been extremely appropriate, and have produced a very happy effect.

Upon entering the valley here, the eye is presented with a very striking view. the river Derwent, which flows through it with a southern course, here winds towards the east. Beyond it is seen a lawn; on the further side, and on a very elevated part of which stands *Willersley Castle*, the elegant mansion of Richard Arkwright Esq. backed by high ground and wood. Immediately on the right hand, at the entrance, besides the vast rock mentioned above, there appears at some distance, on the nearer bank of the river, a neat Chapel, erected by Sir Richard Arkwright; and a little beyond it a stone bridge with three arches. Behind this, farther to the east, rises a very elevated woody country; and on the lower part of it there is a house of white freestone, built in a very pleasant situation by the late Peter Nightingale Esq.—On the left of the same entrance into the dale is a high and steep hill called *Harp-edge*: this is the termination of that lofty mountainous country, [which] bounds the whole valley of Matlock on its western side. The hill itself is adorned with many trees, copses, and craggy rocks; and when viewed from Willersley Castle, together with the prodigious rock in front, the river winding along below the lawn, the chapel, bridge, and spacious meadows beyond them, and also the distant mountains, in many parts covered with fine woods, the whole may be truly

said to form a scene both singular in kind, and of incomparable beauty.

Upon entering further into the dale, and proceeding along the bank of the river, the first object that occurs is a Calvinistic Meeting-house; and a little way beyond it, on an elevated site, stands the neat white stone house of Adam Wolley Esq. commanding a fine view of most beautiful scenery. Nearly opposite this house, and a large Cotton-mill erected at a short distance from it, begins, on the farther side of the river, a very striking continuous range of perpendicular rocks, which rising to the height of more than two hundred feet, and stretching half a mile in length, forms the eastern boundary of that part of the valley where the Bath houses are situated. The summit of this magnificent rampart is crowned with wood; and the face of it, which is much curved and very irregular, is softened and rendered pleasing to the eye by spreading ivy, bushy yews, elms, and various other trees, which take root and grow in the crevices, and cover it so nearly, that large portions of grey rock are only here and there open to the view. The ground below the rocks falls, by a steep declivity, covered with wood, to the brink of the river; a circumstance which adds much to the beauty of the dale.

The first house of the public kind, towards the south, is the *New Bath*, a very commodious Inn kept by Mr. Saxton, and calculated to receive about fifty persons. From this house and the spacious green in

front of it, the view of the opposite range of rocks is peculiarly advantageous and pleasing. Contiguous to the house is an excellent garden, in the midst of which grows a remarkably fine lime-tree, whose numerous branches spreading around to a very great extent from its trunk, afford a grateful shade in summer to the company resorting to it. Immediately beyond the garden is a very neat and comfortable lodging-house belonging to Mr. Richard Walker, and calculated for the reception of upwards of twenty persons. A few hundred yards further northwards stands the other *Principal Inn*, called the Old Bath, kept by Mr. Cumming. This house is of great extent, affording convenient accommodation to about one hundred persons. Besides a copious spring and a hot as well as a cold bath, here is a large assembly room; and during the season, which begins in Spring and continues till November, assemblies are held in it, chiefly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. A billiard table is kept both here and at the New Bath. There is likewise in the front of this house a level green of considerable extent; and betwixt it and the house a spacious gravel walk, which commands a very interesting view, not only of the opposite rocks, the great ornament of Matlock, but also of a bold and high hill, which advancing from the western mountainous country towards the river, seems here to shut in the valley. This hill has been named the *Heights of Abraham*, on account of the resemblance it was supposed to bear to the hill so called near Quebec, rendered memorable by the victory and death of the gallant General Wolfe. It is the property of Mr. Gil-

bert, and is covered with a thriving plantation of firs, larches, and other trees: amidst which is formed a walk leading in a serpentine, or rather zigzag, direction to its summit. Towards the upper part of it is an open Alcove, and near this one of the principal curiosities in the neighbourhood, the *Rutland Cavern*. From the terrace at the mouth of this cavern, and other elevated parts of the hill, there is an extensive and most captivating view, not only of the Matlock dale and its delightful scenery, but also of the neighbouring country. The view is almost equally striking towards the lower part of the hill, at a house called the *Tower*, the residence of Mr. Gilbert; and likewise at another house recently erected by Mr. Rawlinson, an excellent portrait painter, one of Romney's pupils, whose merit as an artist has scarcely yet been duly appreciated by the public. A little way below the latter is another pleasant house, in which the late Dr. Smyth resided; and much upon the same level, but nearer the Old Bath, stands the *Temple*, a very excellent lodging-house, kept by Mrs. Evans, its proprietor, in an extremely agreeable and retired situation. Below this, and nearer the river, are several excellent lodging-houses, and particularly in that very long, handsome building, formerly kept as an *Hotel*. One end of this building is still appropriated to the same use, and is kept by Mr. Varley: it is a commodious house, with good stables belonging to it; it has also the advantage of possessing the same excellent bath, which belonged to the large *Hotel*.—Miss Millns and her partner, Miss Hackney, have a Repository containing an elegant assortment of

millenery, also jewellery, toys, fancy articles, and a circulating library, at the opposite end of the same extensive building:—in the centre of it is Mr. Mawe's *Museum*, or *Derbyshire Ornamental Repository*, containing elegant Vases, Chimney Pieces, and a great variety of other articles formed of marble, spar, and alabaster, and also a very interesting collection of Shells, Fossils, &c. Admittance into the Room is free from expense, and few persons visit Matlock, who do not avail themselves of the indulgence. That there are several shops here containing beautiful articles similar in kind to some of those enumerated above has been already mentioned. From the Hotel, the adjoining houses, and the opposite green, the views of the river and rocks are peculiarly advantageous: and these views are generally selected by artists, who employ their pencils at Matlock.

At the distance of half a mile from the Hotel is the *High Tor*, a rock which, on account of its superior magnitude, is far more striking than any other in the whole dale. The lofty summit of this celebrated rock may be seen from the front of the Old Bath, appearing over the lower part of the Heights of Abraham. It stands on the east side of the river; and is, in fact, only the most prominent part of a long range of rocks, similar to that which is opposite the Baths. The lower part of it is a very high and steep acclivity, covered, in a great measure, with low tangled wood: the upper part is a broad, rugged, and somewhat circular mass of lime and toad-stone, rising perpendicularly to the height of about 350 feet above the surface of the water. Be-

neath it the river rolls over an irregular, stony bed, with a violent and noisy current; a circumstance that renders more impressive an object which cannot be contemplated without astonishment and awe. Such must be its effect upon a susceptible mind at all times; but when, in a bright still evening, the beams of the moon, "riding in her majesty," are reflected to the eye from the rippling surface of the river below; and the spacious front of the lofty Tor, and the neighbouring rocks and hills, being partially irradiated, exhibit large intermingled masses of light and shade; no language can adequately express the grandeur of such a scene, and the powerful sensations it is calculated to excite.

Concerning this Tor it may farther be observed, that though it appears so *high*, when viewed from the road in the dale, yet it rises only to a level with the ground behind it; its summit is therefore easy of access; but scarcely any person can approach the border of it and thence look down to the road and river beneath, without being reminded, "how fearful, and dizzy 'tis to cast one's eyes so low!" and without being seized with appalling apprehensions.

The more distant view from this Tor, on account of the winding of the Dale, is much less interesting, than that which is presented from the rocks opposite the Bath houses; and to the top of these rocks the ascent is rendered easy by several winding paths formed amidst the trees that grow upon the acclivity at their

base. One of these passes by an *alcove*, and is thence carried upwards to the *bird-cage* situated towards the summit of the rocks. But in order to arrive at these walks it is necessary to cross the water, and boats are kept for the purpose on that part of the river which is opposite the Old Bath.—The *Lovers' Walk*, is found on the farther side, passing along the bank of the river amidst trees that form a kind of bower to its different extremities. At its south end there is a recess in a rock, called *Dido's Cave*; and here it is divided by a high wall from other very extensive walks, that lead to Willersley Castle and the adjoining grounds: these walks, by Mr. Arkwright's indulgence, are open to all who choose to visit them, every Monday and Thursday; and here are to be met with scenes of the most agreeable and impressive kind: but it is at the summit of a projecting rock, above the house, called the *Wild Cat Tor*, that there bursts upon the sight one of the most striking views that the imagination can form, a view calculated to excite both awe and admiration,—the Dale with all its romantic scenery, its rocks and precipices clothed with wood, and the river winding beneath them; here appearing one dark, unruffled expanse, and there rushing down a weir, and amidst large stones, in a broad impetuous cataract. And should the spectator in some serene evening, looking down from this lofty station, behold the whole bosom of the dale animated with numerous parties of the gay visitants; some wandering, as fancy leads, through the shady walks; others gliding along on the surface of the water; all, *curis expeditis*, in full enjoyment of the surrounding beauties of Nature,

and exhilarated by the strains of musical instruments proceeding from the recesses of the groves ; this, surely, must appear to be a scene truly magical, to which should any one think of doing justice, his pen or pencil would attempt it in vain.

The house at Willersley is not shewn, as its furniture has not been selected with a view to splendor of appearance, but rather for the purposes of utility, which this mansion possesses in an eminent degree. Those expressive words of the poet, “*simplex munditiis*,” are very applicable here ; the house being no less remarkable for elegance and simplicity within, than it is for just proportion and symmetry in its external appearance. It contains some excellent portraits and other pieces by Wright, of Derby, particularly one of Ullswater lake, which was purchased for 300 guineas : it was the last performance of this excellent artist, and is most highly esteemed as a *chef d'œuvre* of its kind. The spot where the house is erected, was previously occupied by a rock. the removal of which cost Sir R. Arkwright about three thousand pounds. The architect was Mr. William Thomas of London. After the edifice was completed, but before it was inhabited, it was set on fire by the heat of a stove, some timber having been incautiously inserted too near a flue, and all that was combustible in it, was consumed. This accident happened on the eighth of August 1791.

On an eminence, near the end of the Cromford canal stands the *Rock House*, inhabited by Peter Ark-

wright Esq. In this house, on the third of August, 1792 expired Sir Richard Arkwright: of the extraordinary importance of whose ingenious inventions the reader can scarcely need to be reminded. His uncommon abilities were evinced, not by those inventions alone, but likewise by the judicious methods he adopted to carry them fully into effect, and to secure to himself a just proportion of the advantages resulting from them. “*Multa tui fecique,*” were the words chosen for his motto; to a person of his aspiring mind, “*Aut Cæsar aut nihil,*” would have been equally suitable.

The first Cotton-mill that was worked by water, was erected at Cromford; and the place was chosen by Sir R. Arkwright, with his usual sagacity, as well on other accounts, as because the water there, issuing from a sough that has been formed to drain the lead mines, is always warm; so that no obstruction is ever occasioned by frost; and the quantity of water supplied from this source, is subject to little or no variation. Many persons who visit Matlock, would undoubtedly be much gratified, if permission were given to inspect the mills; but as, in such a situation, a general permission to view them would be attended with much inconvenience, and a partial one would be offensive to those, who did not obtain it, it has therefore been determined, that no application for leave shall be complied with.

To the *external* beauties of Matlock are to be added its *subterraneous* attractions, which contribute to excite

the admiration of strangers : these consist of three Caverns the Rutland, the Cumberland, and the Fluor, which though similar in some respects, yet differ so much in others, as to induce some persons to visit them all.

“ *Facies non omnibus una,
Nec diversa tamen, qualem decet esse sororum.*”

The *Rutland cavern*, in the Heights of Abraham, is remarkably easy of access : the first part of it is a long level path formed with great labour by miners in the solid limestone, and leading to several very lofty cavities and vaults of great extent, ramifying, as it were, and spreading in different directions. At the side of one of these an easy ascent by a great number of steps conducts the visitor to numerous other cavities and vaulted passages amidst rocks of the most grotesque forms and craggy appearance, extending far into the inner part of the mountain. This cavern contains some springs of clear water, and is adorned with various brilliant crystallizations, and different metallic ores, which are here commodiously presented to the view in their native state.

Here ranging through her vaulted ways,
On Natures alchymy you gaze,
See how she forms the gem, the ore,
And all her magazines explore.

The view from the *Heights* of the romantic dale below, which appears very striking at all times, is peculiarly so to the spectator, when having traversed this

extensive cavern, he first emerges from the dark recesses of it.

The *Cumberland* is a single cavern formed by the union of two, which have been visited as objects of curiosity almost thirty years. This is shewn by Mr. Peter Smedley, who keeps a spar shop opposite Walker's Lodging-house, and is situated at a considerable distance up the hill behind that and the New Bath. It extends to a very great length, and possesses this advantage that the visitor is not obliged to retrace his steps to the part where he entered, but finds an exit at the other end of it. The roofs of the numerous cavities within it are of a different kind from those in the Rutland cavern, having less the appearance of arches; and a multitude of massy stones lying within them appear to have fallen from the roofs above through some violent concussion of the earth, by which they have been disjoined and thrown into horrid confusion: several parts of this cavern also have a very brilliant appearance, and exhibit different substances that will be inspected by the curious mineralogist with great interest and satisfaction.

The *Fluor cavern* is situated towards the top of the wood behind the Old Bath, and though much less extensive than either of those just mentioned, it will not on that account, by many persons who are inclined to visit the caverns, be thought undeserving of particular notice. The way up the wood has lately been improved, and the trouble of ascending it is compensated

by the view of the scenery it exhibits: the passage into the cavern is rendered commodious, and the *souterrain* visit easy and agreeable. The different spars in this, as well as in the other caverns, are brilliant and interesting; the strangely grotesque forms of the objects it contains highly amusing; and the numerous lights placed in its various recesses produce a very impressive and pleasing effect.

One circumstance, which particularly recommends a visit to this cavern, is its proximity to certain rocks, which have been properly enough termed the *Romantic Rocks*.

Of these rocks some idea may, perhaps, be formed from the following account. There is a lofty hill or precipice covered with wood, and beneath it a vast mass of limestone, having a perpendicular face, in some parts fifty or sixty feet high. This face may be considered as divided into two portions running in different directions, in such a manner, that they would form nearly a right angle at their junction, were there not in that part a projection of the rock, causing it to form two angles instead of one. From these angles, in one of which is the mouth of a mine, several very large fragments have separated, apparently at different periods, as they are found at different distances; and what is very remarkable, they remain in an erect posture; some of them rising to a great height, and consisting of several enormous stones piled one upon another in the regular manner of mason-work. The passage be-

twixt these detached cliffs and the parent rock, if it may be so termed, varies in breadth from four to ten or twelve feet, and is about thirty yards in length. It is decorated on each side with moss, yew, and pendent ivy; and the gloominess of it is much deepened by the numerous trees, that grow on the steep hill high above, and hang over it; the whole forming a romantic group not easy to be described.

The Matlook water springing in great abundance from limestone rocks is of the clearest kind, and having a temperature of 68 degrees, it has a claim to be admitted into the short list of thermal waters, that are to be found in England. It has not been analysed with much exactness; but it has been found to contain a small quantity of a neutral salt, probably muriat of soda, and about as much of an earthy salt, which is chiefly calcareous. Its calcareous contents are quickly deposited, when it is exposed to the air, incrusting every substance that is immersed in it. Curious specimens of this incrustation are to be seen at, what are called, the *Petrifying Wells* at Matlock; and of the same nature is the *tophus*, in the bank on the west side of the river, which is much employed here as a building material.

The great benefit often experienced by invalids who visit Matlock, is very strongly attested by Dr. F. Armstrong in the Medical Commentaries. He says, "I have taken great pains to examine particularly into the properties of the Matlock springs, and may with truth assert,

that they are of the same nature with the Bristol water, equal in some cases, and preferable in many."—After reciting the unexpected recovery of a young lady, whom he had lately sent to Matlock in a confirmed phthisis pulmonalis, he adds, "I have, in the course of seven years, sent a great number of patients to Matlock, and in cases where medicine had not the least prospect of being serviceable; all of whom have had perfect and lasting cures; and I may with truth declare, I have not failed in one instance."—He afterwards observes, "I perfectly agree with Dr. Perceval, that a larger quantity of Matlock water may be drunk at a time, than of any other mineral water I am acquainted with, owing to the entire absence of any mineral spirit; yet it is always advisable to begin with small quantities. From the want of mineral spirit it is less apt to throw the circulation of the blood into irregularities, or quicken the pulse: and therefore it must have the preference to Bristol water in phthisis pulmonalis, hæmoptoe, diabetes, fluor albus, &c. In all these I have experienced the most happy effects from it, as well as in hectic and low fevers, in hysteric and hypochondriac affections, in profluvium or deficiency of catamenia, in bilious disorders, in constitutions debilitated by long and severe vernal and autumnal intermittents, in disorders arising from long residence in hot climates, in broken constitutions brought on by hard and habitual drinking, and in weak and depraved appetites."

Dr, Saunders, in his excellent Treatise on mineral waters, observes, that Matlock water may be employed

in all those cases wherein a pure diluent drink is advisable; but it is principally used as a tepid bath, or at least one which comes to the extreme limits of a cold bath. On this account it produces but little shock on immersion, and is therefore peculiarly fitted for those delicate and languid habits, that cannot exert sufficient reaction to overcome the effects of the ordinary cold bath, and on which the benefits it produces chiefly depend. Matlock water forms a good intermediate bath between Bath or Buxton and the sea, and may be employed in preparing the invalid for the latter".—But concerning the prevalent custom of resorting annually to the sea coast for the purpose of bathing, the author here cited gives this important caution. "If we consider, says he, the great difference that always exists between the summer atmosphere and the heat of the sea; the bleak exposed aspect of many even of our most favourite watering-places and the keen winds, to which the bather must often be exposed; I cannot but think, that there is a great number of invalids, of young and puny children, and delicate females, who have been often materially injured in their health by an indiscriminate use of this powerful application of cold; and are thereby disappointed of the advantages of a more genial climate, and of country air, exercise and amusement, which altogether form a very remedial process, and give the great charm to a summer excursion.

The physician, who chiefly attends at Matlock, is Dr. Goodwin, of Wirksworth; he has visited patients there many years; and from his eminent qualifications,

appears well entitled to the preference that is usually given him.

At Wirksworth is the *Bank* of Messrs. Arkwright, and Toplis, which draws upon that of Messrs. Down, Thornton, and Co. London.

Letters are received at Matlock from the south every evening; coaches pass through the place, and there is an opportunity of getting goods conveyed thence either by land or the Cromford canal towards every part of the kingdom.

Among the different plants which usually attract attention at Matlock, the principal are those of the orchis kind, of which the following species are found there:

Orchis bifolia, butterfly orchis has a sweet scent during night.

Orchis morio, meadow orchis.

—— *Mascula*, early orchis.

—— *ustulata*, dwarf orchis.

—— *latifolia*, broad leaved orchis.

—— *maculata*, spotted orchis.

—— *conopsea*, red-handed orchis.

Satyrion viride, frog satyrion.

Ophrys nidus avis, birds' nest orchis.

—— *muscifera*, fly orchis.

—— *apifera*, bee orchis.

The flower of the bee orchis is so exact an image of the bee, as to deceive the eye that views it at a short

distance ; a circumstance which has given occasion to the following lines :

See on that flowret's velvet vest
How close the busy vagrant lies ?
His thin wrought plume, his downy breast,
Th' ambrosial gold that swells his thighs.

Perhaps his fragrant load may bind
His limbs ;—we'll set the captive free,—
I sought the living bee to find,
And found the *image* of a bee.

The description of Matlock may, not improperly, be succeeded by some account of two other dales, viz. Dove dale, and Middleton dale ; the latter of which bears a great degree of resemblance to that of Matlock.

At the distance of near four miles from Ashbourn, and one from the Buxton road, is the justly celebrated *Dove dale*. A very high conical hill in its neighbourhood is called *Thoip cloud*, near which is the entrance into a deep hollow called *Bunster dale*. A road through this ravine, after descending about half a mile, leads by a sudden turn into the southern extremity of *Dove dale*, a most romantic rocky chasm, through which the river *Dove* pursues its winding course, dashing over the rude masses that have fallen from the adjoining cliffs. The river in some parts nearly fills the bosom of the dale ; and the passenger, unless he steps with caution along the narrow broken path on its bank,

is in danger of falling from the slippery stones into the stream. In pursuing this path the eye is presented with numerous rugged rocks of the most grotesque forms. In some places they shoot up in detached masses, resembling spires or pyramids, to the height of thirty or forty yards, and are finely ornamented with mantling ivy: in other parts the impending rocks seem to forbid all further progress: some are firm and solid throughout; others are split and dislocated, and appear ready to be overwhelmed by the first tempest that sweeps the dale: About a mile from the entrance there opens on the right a magnificent arch, about forty feet high, and eighteen wide, extending in front of a high precipice, but so entirely detached from it, as to have the appearance of a prodigious massy wall, formed by human hands. Upon looking up through the arch to the rock behind, the eye distinguishes in it the mouth of a cavern; and a path that passes under the arch, leads up to it by a very steep and difficult ascent. This cavern, which is not remarkably spacious, is called *Reynard's Hall*; and another at a little distance below, is termed *Reynard's Kitchen*. The opposite side of the dale is covered with a mass of hanging wood, from the midst of which a large, detached, craggy rock starts out to a great height, and forms a very grand and impressive object, known by the appellation of *Dove dale Church*.

It was at a precipice near Reynard's Hall, apparently more than three hundred feet high, that Mr. Langton, dean of Clogher, met with his fate. This gentleman,

together with a female friend, Miss La Roche, both mounted on the same horse, rashly attempted to ascend the precipice; but after climbing to a considerable height, the poor animal, unequal to the task imposed on him, fell under his burthen, and rolled down the steep. The dean was precipitated to the bottom, where he was found so bruised and mangled by the fall, that he expired in a few days, and was buried in Ashbourn church; but the young lady, who had been stopped in her descent by her hair being entangled in a bush, slowly recovered; though, when taken up, she was insensible, and continued so for two days. The horse, more fortunate than its riders, received very little injury.


At a short distance from Reynard's Hall a vast rock rises on the right, and another on the left side of the river; beyond which the dale loses its interesting character, and is generally quitted near a considerable cavern, called the *Fox-holes*. From this point it is usual to pass by a farm house, called Hanson Grange, to the turnpike road between Newhaven and Ashbourn. Sometimes the visit to the dale, instead of ending, commences at the Fox holes.

Concerning Dove dale, the ingenious Mr. Gilpin, in his Northern Tour, observes, that "it is, perhaps, one of the most pleasing pieces of scenery of the kind we any where meet with. It has something peculiarly characteristic. Its detached perpendicular rocks stamp it with an image entirely its own, and for that reason

it affords the greater pleasure. For it is in scenery as in life: we are most struck with the peculiarity of an original character, provided there is nothing offensive in it."

When Dove dale is visited, about two miles are not unusually added to the excursion, making it extend to two other places on the borders of Staffordshire. One of these is *Oakover*, where may be seen some exquisite performances of the most eminent painters, Raphael, Titian, Rubens, &c.—The other place is *Ilam*, the residence of W. Jesse Russel, Esq. The grounds here, though principally consisting of a meadow of inconsiderable extent, bounded by lofty rocks, are uncommonly pleasing from the contiguity of a rich hanging wood, and the views they admit of the surrounding country. But what chiefly contributes to render them attractive is this singular circumstance, that two rivers, the *Hamps* and the *Manifold*, here re-appear within fifteen yards of each other, after flowing in distinct subterraneous channels: the former from the vicinity of Wetton, a distance of nearly five miles northward; and the latter from Leek Water Houses, about six miles to the south-west. That the streams which rise here are really the same that are ingulphed in the fissures of the rocks at the above-mentioned places, has been proved by experiments made with floating bodies; and that their waters do not intermingle during their underground course, is evident from the difference of temperature, which, on trial with the thermometer, is found to be two degrees.—There is a little grotto in the rocks

that hang over the river, in which Congreve, when scarcely nineteen years of age, is recorded to have written his comedy entitled the Old Bachelor.




At the distance of about five miles to the east of Tideswell stands the small village called *Stony Middleton* at the farther end of the long narrow *Dale*, which takes its name from the village. The road from Chesterfield to Tideswell passes through this dale beneath an uninterrupted range of stupendous perpendicular rocks, which, viewed at a little distance, bear a very striking resemblance to mouldering Castles, or the ruins of towering edifices erected by human hands. They differ from the rocks at Matlock in this respect, and in being more monotonous and craggy, and in not having their features softened and decorated, like those at the latter place, by a multitude of trees and shrubs growing on them. A large quantity of stone taken from extensive quarries here, is burnt into excellent lime, or carried to the founderies at Chesterfield: and in one part of the dale is pointed out a frightful precipice, to which is given the name of the Lover's Leap, with more justice, it seems, than that title is usually conferred; since it is the uniform tradition of the inhabitants near it, that about 70 years ago, very early one summer morning, a young woman, called Hannah Baddely, unable to endure the pangs of disappointed love, after gaining the top of this rock, and divesting herself of her bonnet, cap, and handkerchief, threw

herself headlong from it, in hopes of putting an end to her woes and her life together; but we are told, that her garments being caught by bushes in several stages of her descent, she fell with very little hurt into a saw-pit, partly filled with sawdust, at the bottom of the rock: it is added, that she long survived this attempt at suicide, and not many years have yet elapsed since death effected, in the natural way, that dissolution, which this desperate expedient had failed to produce.

At a short distance to the north of this dale is Eyam, a village of respectable appearance, which was visited with that dreadful calamity the plague in the month of September 1665. It appears by the parish register that 260 of the inhabitants fell victims to this fatal disease; while Mr. Mompesson, the worthy rector, in spite of all intreaty, remained at his post, daily visiting and praying with the sick; and to avoid spreading the infection, performed divine service and preached twice a week to his parishioners in the open air from the arch of a rock, which has hence obtained the name of Cucklet church. In the church-yard is a monument for his wife who, fell a victim to the disease, in the 27th year of her age. In consequence of an arrangement suggested by him to the Earl of Devonshire, the inhabitants of Eyam, being supplied with necessities left for their use at certain appointed places, were prevailed upon by his influence to confine themselves within the limits of their village, so that the infection did not spread beyond it, though the distemper remained in it near seven months. On account of his conduct on this affecting

occasion the memory of this faithful pastor was long cherished and revered by the inhabitants, not of Eyam alone, but of all the surrounding country.



The most usual excursions from Matlock are made to three different mansions not very remote from it, viz the Manor house at *South Winfield*, or *Wingfield*, *Chatsworth*, and *Haddon*. The first of these is seven miles distant from Matlock, and is situated near the road that leads from that place through Crich to Alfreton and Mansfield. This spacious and once stately structure cannot be contemplated in its present ruinous condition without a train of pensive reflections. The building was begun about the year 1440 by Ralph lord Cromwell, lord treasurer in the reign of Henry the sixth; it was probably completed by John Talbot, the second Earl of Shrewsbury, to whom the reversion of the manor was sold, and there is no doubt that it was one of the principal seats of his five immediate successors. It surrounded two square courts, was castellated and embattled, and had a tower at each angle; that at the south west rises higher than the rest, and commands an extensive prospect. That it has been a very beautiful edifice plainly appears from the remains of the north side of the principal court: these consist of a porch and a bow with three Gothic windows, the arches of which are slightly pointed. The porch and bow-window are both embattled, having a fascia [of quatrefoils and roses running immediately beneath the

battlements: The arch of the door-way of the porch is very slightly pointed, and enriched with quatrefoils; on the battlements over it is a shield with the arms of Cromwell. The inner walls are so much demolished, that it is scarcely possible to ascertain the exact form and dimensions of the apartments. Some of them were very spacious: the great hall measured 72 feet by 36, and beneath it is a vault of equal dimensions, very curiously arched with stone, and having a double row of pillars running up the middle of it.

In the year 1568 Mary, Queen of Scots, "whose misfortunes began in her cradle, and accompanied her, with little intermission, to her grave," was placed in the custody of the Earl of Shrewsbury; and the year after this, as Camden informs us, "Leonard Dacres formed a plan to release her from her confinement at Winfield. She continued 17 years in the custody of the Earl, who resided, during that period, at Chatsworth, Winfield, and Sheffield, but chiefly at the latter place: that she was never confined in the present mansion at Hardwick is certain, because it was erected by the Countess of Shrewsbury at a later period; but she may, perhaps, have spent some little time in the old house, and have made use of the sumptuous furniture still shewn at that place. It appears from Sir Ralph Sadler's papers, published in 1809, that there were 210 gentlemen, yeomen, officers, and soldiers, employed in the custody of the Queen of Scots at Winfield in the month of November, 1584. She was removed thence to Tutbury Castle on the 13th of Jan. 1585.

The first damage this edifice sustained, was during the civil wars, when it appears to have been garrisoned for the parliament, and was taken by storm, in Nov. 1643, by a party of royalists under the command of William Cavendish, Marquis of Newcastle. It was re-taken by Sir John Gell, of Hopton, the governor, Colonel Dalby, being killed during the siege; and was afterwards dismantled by an order of parliament, dated June the twenty third 1646. Since that time it has been suffered to go to decay, excepting only a small part of it, which long continued the residence of the family of Halton; till, in consequence of a partition of the estate in 1774, the manor-house having become the property of the late Immanuel Halton Esq. he contributed to its dilapidation by pulling down a considerable part of it, in order to make use of the materials in erecting a house at the bottom of the opposite hill, to the great regret of the admirers of this beautiful and interesting Gothic mansion.

Chatsworth is ten miles distant from Matlock and the road to it from this place is remarkably pleasant. It passes through Darley dale, and by the church-yard, in which is a yew-tree, that measures 33 feet in girth; and though it has now lost many extremely large branches, it still exhibits in its trunk an extraordinary instance of luxuriant vegetation.

It is usual for those, whose curiosity leads them to visit Chatsworth, to leave their equipages at a handsome Inn erected at Edensor on the border of the park,

and to walk thence to the house. At the place where it stands Sir William Cavendish began to build a noble mansion which, after his death in the year 1557, was completed by his wife Elizabeth, mother of the first earl of Devonshire. Her fourth husband, the earl of Shrewsbury, having been entrusted with the custody of the queen of Scots, this house acquired more than common interest, as having been one of the prisons of that unfortunate princess; and here she wrote her second letter to Pope Pius, bearing date the 31st of Oct. 1570. Towards the end of the 17th century, this building was taken down by William, the first duke of Devonshire, to make room for the present magnificent fabric, which was finished about the year 1706, and is in every respect a suitable mansion for a subject of the first rank and fortune. The tradition that the apartments occupied by the Queen of Scots were preserved, when the house was re-built, is unsupported by any evidence; but there is no reason to doubt, that the rooms, which bear the name of the royal prisoner, occupy the same site as those which she inhabited.

The building at Chatsworth is in the form of a square containing a court within it; there is a fountain with the statue of Orpheus in the centre, and a colonnade on the north and south sides of this court.—The south front of the house is 190 feet in length, and is enriched with pilasters of the Ionic order, resting on a rustic base; the west front is 172 feet in length, enriched in a similar manner; it has also a pediment sup-

ported by half columns of the same order.—The paintings that chiefly deserve notice here are, that of the Incredulity of St. Thomas in the chapel, a very beautiful room wainscotted with cedar; St. Michael and the falling angels by Raphael; Andromeda and the sea monster, also the Rape of the Sabines, both by Sir James Thornhill; and the Angel appearing to Mary in the garden, a fine picture by Titian. The walls and ceilings of several of the apartments are superbly decorated by the pencil; and the numerous *fine carvings* executed here by Young * and others never fail to attract admiration.

Over the colonnade, on the north side of the quadrangle, is a gallery nearly 100 feet in length, in which have lately been hung up a very numerous collection of drawings by the old masters. The dancing gallery, 90 feet by 22, has lately been fitted up for a library, and a great number of books from Devonshire house have been removed thither.

The water-works at Chatsworth, once highly celebrated, were constructed by M. Grillet, a French artist; they were begun in 1690, when the pipe was laid for the great fountain, which throws up water to the height of 90 feet, and also for another, which throws

* In a late publication it has been shewn that, though some of Gibbons's carvings may, perhaps, have been sent to Chatsworth; yet the tradition, that he was employed there as an artist seems not to rest on any good foundation, no writer before Lord Orford ever spoke of the works of Gibbons at Chatsworth.

it to the height of 60. The work was executed by Mr. Cock, a plumber from London; who, in 1693, made the artificial tree, from the branches and leaves of which a shower is produced. When the great cascade is exhibited, the water rushes, in vast quantity and with great violence from various figures that decorate the building at the Lead of it; such as the Nilus, reclining on an urn, lions' heads, dolphins, sea nymphs, &c. and falling into a basin in front of it, from which also several fountains issue, it is thence discharged, over a long series of stone steps, down a steep hill; and having reached the bottom, it sinks into the ground and disappears. These works are supplied by a reservoir, which is said to cover sixteen acres of ground.

We are informed by Dr. Kennet, that Marshal Tallard, who was taken by the duke of Marlborough in 1704, and remained a prisoner in this country seven years, having been hospitably entertained by the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth several days, parted from his noble host with this compliment, "My lord, when I come hereafter to compute the time of my captivity in England, I shall leave out the days of my enjoyment at Chatsworth."—On the 3rd of Sept. 1768, the King of Denmark, being then on a tour to the north of England, dined at Chatsworth.—The grand duke Nicholas of Russia, brother of the Emperor, was splendidly entertained there by the present Duke on the 8th and 9th of Dec. 1816.

Chatsworth house stands near the foot of a mountain, that rises behind it with a gradual ascent, and is finely clothed with wood. On the highest part of this eminence is the Hunting-tower, a building which commands a very extensive view, and is supposed to have been erected as a station where ladies might partake in the diversion of stag hunting. On the opposite, that is, the west side of the house, and at a small distance from it, flows the river Derwent, over which is an elegant stone bridge erected by Paine: and to the north of it, near the river, are the remains of an old tower encompassed by a moat, and called the Bower of Mary, Queen of Scots, it having been her favourite retreat, while she remained at Chatsworth.

The park is said to be nine miles in circumference: it is beautifully diversified with hill and dale, in many parts adorned with plantations; and beyond these, towards the north, the dusky mountains of the Peak rear their heads to the clouds with an air of extraordinary grandeur and sublimity.

At the distance of one mile and a half south of Bakewell, on the east side of the river Wye, stands *Haddon Hall*, a very ancient castellated mansion belonging to the Duke of Rutland. His ancestor, Sir John Manners, acquired it, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by a marriage with one of the co-heiresses of Sir George Vernon who, on account of his hospitality and magnificent mode of living, was locally termed "King of the Peak." The numerous apartments of

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this edifice surround two quadrangular paved courts; they have been erected at various periods, but no part of them appears to be of a later date than the middle of the 16th century. The mansion seems to have been principally erected by Sir Henry and Sir George Vernon; but it is probable that the chapel was built by their ancestor Sir Richard Vernon, who died in the year 1452. In the windows of the chapel are considerable remains of painted glass; and in one of them is the date 1427. The hall, which is situated between the two courts, is about 35 feet by 28 within the screen, which separates it from the buttery and other offices. The gallery, 100 feet long by 17 wide, occupies the whole south side of the upper court: it is uncertain when it was erected; but the oak wainscotting seems to have been put up by Sir John Manners, who married the heiress of Sir George Vernon, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The floor is of oak planks, which tradition reports to have been cut out of a single tree, that grew in the garden; and the steps leading to it are said to have been formed out of the root of the same tree. The wainscotting is enriched with Corinthian pilasters supporting arches, between which are shields of the arms of Manners empaling those of Vernon: the frieze is ornamented with boars' heads, the crest of Vernon, roses and thistles. The great bed chamber appears to have been fitted up about the same time as the gallery; it has a deep cornice of plaster, with a frieze ornamented with boars' heads and peacocks: and over the fire place is a rude bas-relief in plaster of Orpheus charming the beasts. The chamber between

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this room and the gallery has a similar cornice and frieze.

The principal apartments of Haddon-hall are hung with ancient arras concealing the doors, which are of the rudest workmanship; and wooden bolts, strong bars, and iron hasps are, in general, their only fastenings. The kitchen presents many curious vestiges of the hospitality, which anciently distinguished the residence of an English Baron. It contains two vast fire places, with irons for a great number of spits, various stoves, double ranges of dressers, an enormous chopping block, &c. Adjoining the kitchen are several small rooms, which were used for larders and other purposes.

The gloomy apartments and general appearance of this antique edifice are said to have suggested to Mrs. Ratcliffe some of the traits she has introduced in her terrific descriptions of Castles in the "Mysteries of Udolpho."

In the 6th volume of the *Archæologia* Mr. King, having given a description of this building, observes, that "nothing can convey a more complete idea of ancient modes of living, than is to be obtained on this spot. Many great dwellings, which formerly helped to present the same ideas, are now quite rased and gone; and others are only heaps of ruins, so far maimed, that it requires much attention to make out or comprehend what they once were, or to understand any thing of their original plan; and it is much to be wished by

every lover of antiquities, that this princely habitation may never come so far into favour as to be modernized; lest the traces of ancient times and manners, which are now so rarely preserved in this country, any where, should be utterly lost also here.”

One part of *Bakewell* church, called the Newark, was anciently the cemetery of the illustrious family at Haddon, and there are several curious tombs within it; there are also some other remarkable monuments in this church, which is itself an ancient and spacious structure, exhibiting the architecture of various periods. The external arch of the west door-way is enriched with Saxon ornaments; and both this and another arch on the south side of the church, the ancient font within it, and a stone cross in the church-yard, have attracted particular notice. Two stone coffins, measuring six feet six inches within, one of them containing a metal goblet, were found close to the south side of the church in August 1817.

At Bakewell the Duke of Rutland has erected a large inn, with extensive stables, &c. it is kept by Mr. and Mrs. Greaves, and the accommodations here are excellent: it contains a hot bath; and at a little distance from it is the spring that supplied the ancient bath, which probably, as well as that at Buxton, was known to the Romans. From the bath the town derived its Saxon name Bathecanwell; in the domesday survey it is called Badequelle, and this was afterwards further corrupted to Bauquelle. The temperature of the spring

above mentioned is 59 or 60 degrees; the water, which is recommended as a tonic, has been lately analysed by Mr. C. Sylvester, of Derby, and 10 wine quarts of it are found to contain

Crystallised sulphate of lime.....	75	grains.
Super-carbonate of lime.....	20	
Crystallised sulphate of magnesia..	22	
Muriate of magnesia	1·0	
Super-carbonate of iron	3·1	
	<hr/>	
	121·7	

A bath erected over the spring about the year 1697, is 17 feet high, 33 feet long, and 20 wide, and it has lately been put in complete repair.—Mr. White Watson, who makes mineralogical collections for private cabinets, &c. and who has a great variety of fossils and relics of antiquity in his possession, resides at this bath. At Bakewell has also been found a sulphureous spring, which is supposed to be of the same strength as that at Kedleston, and useful in the same complaints. This town has lately been much resorted to in summer, particularly by persons fond of angling, who have here an excellent opportunity of pursuing their favourite diversion along the mazy current of the beautiful river Wye. The fall of this river from the bridge at Bakewell to its termination at Rowsley has been found to be 30 feet: as, therefore, it descends from the former place with an almost perpetual stream, and with very little wood upon its banks, it is extremely well adapted to the operations of the angler.

Whoever travels from Bakewell towards Tideswell, when he has ascended from Ashford and passed by a small house at the third milestone, will find himself on the brow of a lofty and steep mountain; and casting his eyes to the bottom of it, if he is not utterly destitute of a taste for the beauties of nature, he will be struck with the highest admiration by a complete view, suddenly presented, of the charming *Monsal Dale*,* stretching to the right and left immediately beneath him. Along this delightful dale the lively river Wye pursues its meandering course; and the verdant meadows, through which it strays, have their beauties contrasted and heightened in no common degree by the surrounding mountains; the steep sides of which in some parts are clothed with low tangled wood, in others are covered with a smooth green sward, or are overspread with a multitude of loose grey stones, and here and there have a large craggy rock† projecting from them. On the farther side of the dale, a prominent hill, which rises from it less precipitously than the rest, is divided for the most part into inclosures finely interspersed with trees. On this the eye dwells with pleasure; but towards some of the more distant summits the view appears to terminate in cheerless sterility. The deep sequestered dale itself may well remind the spectator of that, in which the Abyssinian prince is said to have been secluded from the rest of the world; or when, in his survey of the charming landscape beneath

* Mons altus, the lofty mountain.

† The Hyrst rocks are seen at a distance on the left.

him, he sees a building or two embosomed in wood, together with a slight rustic bridge thrown over the stream, he will look upon this as a situation admirably adapted for the retreat of an ascetic; who, retiring from the world, its cares and its tumults, should wish to devote the remainder of his days to solitary and "heavenly pensive contemplation:" here may he say,

*Inveni portum: Spes et Fortuna, valete;
Sat me lusistis, ludite nunc alios.*

Now safe in port, let others Hope pursue,
And Fortune's lure, I bid them both adieu.



BUXTON

is situated in an elevated part of the High Peak; and as the country around it is altogether destitute of those attractive charms, which a fertile soil and genial climate are wont to supply, its great and growing reputation can only be ascribed to the efficacy of its water, the medicinal quality of which has been long known and universally acknowledged.

The temperature of the tepid water at Buxton is uniformly 82°; it is remarkably pure, being very slightly impregnated with saline particles. According to Dr. Pearson's analysis, one gallon of it yielded 15½ grains of residuum, which consisted of 1½ grain of muriat of soda, 2½ sulphate of lime, and 11½ carbonate of lime, held in solution by a slight excess of carbonic

acid. It is used both for bathing and internally, and is chiefly recommended in cases of gout, rheumatism, derangement of the biliary and digestive organs, and diseases of the urinary passages; for all which it is held in great repute: but in feverish and inflammatory complaints it is found extremely prejudicial. In cases where it is efficacious, Dr. Denman has observed, that “commonly two glasses, each of the size of a third part of a pint, are as much as ought to be drunk before breakfast, at the distance of forty minutes from each other; and that one or two of the same glasses between breakfast and dinner will be quite sufficient.” The water is usually drunk at the elegant little building, called St. Anne’s well, whither it is conveyed from the original spring, through a narrow gritstone channel, 46 feet long, into a white marble basin; and this well is regarded as one of the *Seven Wonders** of the Peak. from this circumstance, that both hot and cold spring water may be obtained within twelve inches of each other, from a double pump, situated on the opposite side of the building to that which contains the basin.

With respect to bathing, Dr. Denman recommends for invalids the time between breakfast and dinner as the most proper; and directs exercise to be taken before going into the bath, and that the water should never be drunk immediately before bathing. There are

* The other reputed wonders are, Poole’s Hole, the Ebbing and Flowing Well, Eldon Hole Mam Tor, or the Shivering Mountain, the Peak Cavern, and Chatsworth.

separate public baths for gentlemen, ladies, and the poor, and two private baths. The springs have been calculated to throw up about sixty gallons of water every minute; and the time requisite to fill the baths, is two hours and fifty minutes. A very useful accommodation, of which Buxton was destitute, is now supplied by the erection of two hot baths at the east end of the Crescent.

Besides the water in common use, there is betwixt the George Inn and the newly-erected houses called the Square, a chalybeate spring issuing from a shaly stratum on the north side of the river Wye.

As it is presumed, that scarcely any invalid will have recourse to so active a remedy as the Buxton water without consulting a physician, and taking him for a guide in the use of it, the only remark that seems requisite here is, that Drs. Drever, Stokes, and Mavor, have usually attended at Buxton during the season.

There is a Charitable Institution here, for the relief of such poor persons as, being properly recommended, resort to this place for the benefit of the waters. Its fund is supported by the contribution of one shilling each, paid by all visitors on their arrival, by collections at two annual sermons, and by casual donations. Every pauper invalid has the advantage of medical assistance and medicines and the use of [the bath, together with an allowance of 6s. per week for the space of four weeks, if standing in need of pecuniary assistance. The

institution is under the management of a committee composed of the neighbouring gentry, and upwards of 400 poor persons have sometimes been enabled by it to partake of the benefit of these salutary waters, and many of them to return to their families with renewed health and spirits, in the course of a season: and surely an institution that contributes so largely to the removal or alleviation of human misery, can never want the liberal support of the charitable; and especially of those who, being themselves restored to the blissful enjoyment of health and strength, experience in their own persons some degree of that transcendent happiness, which they have the means of communicating to others.

O! pause awhile, whoe'er thou art
That drink'st this healing stream;
If e'er compassion in thy heart
Diffus'd its heav'nly beam;

Think on the wretch, whose distant lot
This friendly aid denies,
Think how, in some poor lonely cot,
He unregarded lies.

Hither the helpless stranger bring,
Relieve his heartfelt woe,
And let thy bounty, like this spring,
In genial currents flow.

So may thy years from grief and pain,
And pining want be free;
And thou from heav'n that mercy gain,
The poor receive from thee.

Concerning the derivation of this village's name many conjectures have been formed and advanced by different authors. Dr. Denman imagined it may have come from beck, a brook, and stone; Messrs. Lysons think it probable, that Buxton, anciently written Bawkestanes, was originally called Badestanes, from its stone baths, and that the word has been corrupted like the ancient name of Bakewell.

That the warm springs at Buxton were known to the Romans has been very generally admitted.* Several ancient roads met at this place: one of them, called the Bath-way, or Bathom-gate, commences at Brough, a Roman station, near Hope, and was traced by the late Dr. Pegge: another came from Manchester, and is known in different parts of its course by the terms High-street, Street-fields, Street-lane, Old-gate, &c. and that which proceeded to the south of Buxton, evident vestiges of which appear beyond Hurdlow house, has been already mentioned.—Specimens of Roman workmanship have also been discovered at Buxton. Bishop Gibson mentions a Roman wall cemented with red Roman plaster, close by St. Anne's well, where are the ruins of the *ancient bath*. This wall was taken down in the year 1709, when Sir Thomas Delves, of Cheshire, in memory of a cure he had received from the waters, erected a small stone alcove over the well; and some capacious leaden cisterns and different articles, apparently Roman, were found in dig-

* Dr. Denman's scepticism on this subject is remarkable.

ging the foundation. The shape and dimensions of the ancient bath, which was about six yards from the present bath-room, were clearly discovered, when the building of the Crescent was commenced in the year 1781. From these circumstances it appears extremely probable, that the Romans were well acquainted with Buxton, and that its waters were anciently much esteemed; but scarcely any record of their celebrity is met with till the year 1572, when Dr. Jones, a physician of Derby, published a treatise on their beneficial qualities. The first convenient house for the reception of company was erected a short time previous to this publication by the earl of Shrewsbury, on the site of the building now called the Hall, a part of which belonged to the old fabric. This building occasioned the waters to be much more resorted to than formerly by all ranks of people. Mary, Queen of Scots, appears to have visited Buxton four several times, while she was in the custody of the Earl of Shrewsbury; and in one of those visits that unfortunate princess applied to this place Cæsar's verses on Feltria, with some alteration:

*Buxtona, quæ calidæ celebrabere nomine lymphæ
Forte mihi posthac non adeunda, vale.*

Buxton, whose fame thy milk-warm waters tell,
Whom I, perhaps no more shall see, farewell.

About the year 1670 the greater part of the old hall was taken down, and an enlarged edifice built on its site by William, third Earl of Devonshire; but it is

to the late Duke of D. that the greatly improved state of Buxton is principally to be ascribed. He either rebuilt or added to it many of its commodious inns and lodging-houses; to him it is indebted for its Crescent, Stables and new Church; he caused several walks and drives to be formed; and, by clothing different parts of the country around with plantations, he rendered its general aspect less deformed and unpleasing.

The *Crescent* is a very magnificent edifice erected from the design, and under the superintendence, of the architect Carr. The upper stories in the front are supported by an arcade, within which is a walk seven feet wide. From the top of the arches arise Ionic pilasters, connected at their bases by a beautiful balustrade, that skirts the whole front, the span of which is 257 feet; a similar balustrade extends along the top of the building, and in the centre of it are the arms of the Cavendish family, neatly carved in stone, but surmounted with a pair of natural stag's horns. The number of windows in this spacious building is 378: it is constructed of gritstone obtained near the spot, and faced with free-stone procured from a quarry about a mile distant; it is now divided into one house and three hotels, called the Great, the Centre, and St. Anne's hotel. The house is occupied by Mr. Moore, and contains stationary, a circulating library, and a news room. In the Great Hotel is the Ball Room, a very elegant and well proportioned apartment, with a rich projecting cornice, and various appropriate and beautiful ornaments. From June to October three

assemblies are usually held here every week; on Monday and on Friday an undress, and on Wednesday a dress ball. Adjoining to the ball room is an elegant card room open every evening: there is also a coffee room in this Hotel. There are several billiard tables in Buxton; an excellent one is kept by Billings opposite the hall; and on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, a small theatre is opened by a respectable company. For the diversion of gentlemen, a pack of good harriers is kept by subscription; and to enjoy the amusement of shooting, many resort to the neighbouring moors, on which are found grouse, snipes, plovers, and that singular bird, the dotterell.

Near the Crescent are the *Stables*, an extensive pile, having a circular area within, sixty yards in diameter. Round this is a covered gallery, or ride, where the company take exercise on horseback, when the weather renders shelter necessary. Near the stables is a spacious receptacle for carriages; and in completing these buildings, together with the Crescent, the Duke of Devonshire is said to have expended the sum of 120,000*l*. His grace afterwards erected a very handsome church here, and the expense of that structure was much increased by this circumstance; the land chosen for its site was so unsound, that 2200 piles of wood were driven into it to the depth of 16 feet, in order to obtain a firm foundation. By an act of 51 George III, the patronage of this church, or rather chapel, and that of Baslow is given to the Duke of Devonshire; and in lieu of this patronage, lands to the value of 95*l*. per

annum, and the patronage of the vicarage of Tutbury in Staffordshire, are given to the vicar of Bakewell.

The number of persons who visit Buxton during the season is so great, that some of them are occasionally obliged to seek lodgings in the neighbouring villages; though, besides the different hotels already mentioned, there are several large inns, the George, the Grove, the Angel, the Eagle and Child, and the Shakespeare; which, together with the numerous private lodging houses, are computed to supply accommodation for nearly 1000 persons. Buxton, as well as Matlock, abounds with shops containing petrification ornaments, fossils, and minerals.

A circular road, three miles in extent, passes by the *Lover's Leap*, a craggy precipice, from the summit of which a desponding lover is reported to have flung herself into the rocky gulf below. Another drive has lately been formed, passing in a north west direction betwixt the Macclesfield and Manchester roads, and joining the latter at the distance of three miles from Buxton.

Poole's Hole.—Between one and two miles westward of Buxton, in a vast mass of limestone, is the cavern so called, from an ancient tradition, that an outlaw named Poole once made it his residence. Its entrance is so low and contracted, that the visitor is obliged to proceed in a stooping posture nearly 25 yards, when the passage widens into a spacious vacuity,

from the roof of which depend numerous stalactites; and to these masses and others in various parts of the cavern, from a supposed or imaginary resemblance, its mystagogues have given different names, such as the Flitch of Bacon, Poole's Saddle, his Turtle, his Wool sack, the Lion, the Lady's Toilet, Pillion, Curtain, &c. A stalagmite of surprising magnitude is called the *Queen of Scots' Pillar*, from the tradition of that Queen having made a visit to this cavern, and advanced thus far into its recesses. As this pillar cannot be passed without some difficulty, few people venture beyond it; and indeed the remaining part of the Cavern offers few objects to repay the fatigue of exploring it. The passage contracts, and for some yards it is necessary to descend by very slippery and craggy steps: the passage afterwards continues on a level for 18 or 20 yards, when an almost perpendicular ascent of about 80 yards commences, which leads to a narrow fissure, called the *Eye of St. Anthony's needle*, beyond which the steepness of the way is to be surmounted only by clambering over irregular masses of rock. The cavern terminates about 95 yards beyond the Queen of Scots' pillar; and near the end is an aperture through a projection of the rock, behind which a candle is placed, when any person has ventured to the extremity: this, when seen from the bottom of the cavern appears like a dim star. On returning the visitor is conducted by a way that passes underneath a considerable portion of the road by which he entered. The whole length of the cavern is said to be 560 yards.

Near Poole's Hole are numerous lime kilns and many hundred tons of lime are burnt here annually. The labourers and their families, like the Troglodytes of old, reside in *caves*; for no other name is so well adapted to describe habitations, which are scooped out of the hillocks, or small mounts, formed with the refuse from the lime kilns. The crust of these heaps of rubbish having been consolidated by time, is now impervious to the rain, and, being left of sufficient thickness, forms a substantial roof. Each habitation contains two or three rooms; but few have any other light than what is admitted through the chimney and doorway. Such is the effect of the whole, that one writer has compared them to a rabbit warren: another observes that, when the workmen descend into their caves, at the time of repast, and a stranger sees so many small columns of smoke issuing out of the earth, he imagines himself in the midst of a village in Lapland.

The river Wye, which rises near Buxton, struggles for a passage amidst a series of deep, winding dales; and among the variety of scenery that occurs in its course, one of the most remarkable objects is the rock called *Chee Tor*, distant upwards of five miles from Buxton. This rock may be visited either by pursuing the new road to Tideswell, which passing by Soughbrook leads into Miller's Dale; or rather by the old road to that town, which passes through Fairfield. At a place called Hargate Wall, four miles from Buxton, is a guide-post at the end of a road, which turns to the right and leads to Wormhill. In the midst of this vil-

lage is a public house of decent appearance, called the Chee Tor Coffee House, kept by Mr. George Hill, distinguished not undeservedly by the title of the *Honest Landlord*, who conducts persons through his ground to the rock. At his house it is necessary to leave carriages or horses, and proceed on foot,—first past a handsome house belonging to Sir W. C Bagshaw, and formerly the residence of the family of that name; and afterwards by an irregular descent down a steep hill, from the bottom of which issue two extremely copious springs making no inconsiderable addition to the small river Wye. At a sudden turn of the river near these springs appears the celebrated Chee Tor, a rock of uncommon magnitude, which rises from the bottom of this deep dell, with a broad perpendicular front, to the height, it has been said, of 360 feet; but in this calculation, it is presumed, some part of the hill, which rises gradually above it, must be included; as the bare rock itself does not appear so very remarkable for its height, as for its great longitudinal extent. Opposite to this are other rocks decorated with various kinds of wood, which, at the farther end of this romantic scene, approach so near the Tor, that the intermediate chasm is entirely filled by the river; and as this, in its course, winds round the base of the Tor, and then resumes its former direction, we may here apply the words, by which the poet Bloomfield, but surely not in a moment of inspiration, characterized another rock and a river of the same name:

A tower of rock, that seems to cry,
Go round about me, neighbour Wye.

The Marvel Stones—are situated at a short distance from Small Dale and about four miles from Buxton. They rise not more than three feet above the surface of the ground, and are found, on inspection, to compose one vast rock of limestone, from 60 to 80 yards in length, and in breadth about 20; extending longitudinally from east to west; and having its face more or less deeply indented with innumerable parallel channels or fissures, one, two, or three feet distant from each other, running in a north and south direction. The strata formed by these channels do not extend regularly throughout the rock, but are interrupted by seams or breaks which cross them, and apparently divide the whole into separate stones of various lengths, many of which have in them cavities of a round or oblong form, that frequently contain water. At a little distance from these lie some other stones, that seem detached from them; but if the intermediate soil was removed, the whole would probably be found to belong to one entire rock, rendered remarkable by the horizontal position of its face, and the deep interstices by which its strata are divided.

The Ebbing and Flowing Well—is situated immediately beneath a steep hill, called Barmoor Clough, five miles from Buxton, and by the side of the road leading to Castleton. Close to this intermitting spring is a small pool or hollow, that receives the water from several apertures by the side of it; but from these the water does not issue at regular intervals; for, as that depends on the quantity of rain which has fallen, it

has sometimes, though rarely, happened in very dry seasons, that the well has ceased to flow for two, three or four weeks together. Sometimes it flows only once in twelve hours; sometimes every hour; and, in very wet weather, perhaps twice or thrice within that space. When it begins to rise, the motion of the water is at first gentle; but in a short time the quantity that issues becomes very large: it continues to flow, with a gurgling noise, four minutes and a half; and it has been calculated that, in the space of one minute, 23 hogsheads of water are discharged. Though the flowing of the well does not happen frequently in a dry season; yet its appearance is then far most striking, the cavity that receives it having previously become dry.

The nature of this phenomenon will easily be conceived by those who understand the principles on which a syphon acts. It is to be supposed, that there is a reservoir of water in the hill above; and that a channel or duct, proceeding from the lower part of it, rises in its course to some height, but not so high as the reservoir itself, and afterwards descends to the pool at the foot of the hill. The water increasing in the reservoir at length begins to flow through this duct, and expels the air from it. As soon as this happens, the pressure of the atmosphere upon the surface of the water in the reservoir, forces it through the duct, and continues to do so, till the supply being exhausted, and the air again admitted into the duct, the water immediately ceases to flow through it.

The town of Tideswell has received its name from an intermitting well similar to that at Barmoor Clough; but the situation of it is now scarcely remembered, as it has long ceased to flow.

Elden Hole is a famous perpendicular chasm about three miles westward from Castleton. Its mouth is about 30 yards in length, and 12 broad in the widest part; and to prevent accidents a strong wall is erected round it. The credulity of travellers has often been grossly imposed upon by tales respecting its immeasurable depth. The falsehood of these reports was ascertained by the late John Lloyd Esq. F. R. S. who descended into it in the year 1770: he reached its bottom only 62 yards from its mouth, the light from which was sufficiently strong to permit the reading of any print. The interior of the chasm he describes as consisting of two parts; one small like an oven, the other very spacious and in form like the dome of a glass-house; communicating with each other by a small arched passage. Here he found large masses of sparkling stalactite; and his whole account, given in the 61st Vol. of the Philosophical Transactions, has been confirmed by the assertions of several other persons, who have descended into this chasm at different periods, and all whose relations so nearly correspond, that it can hardly be supposed the depth of Elden Hole will again be made a question.

CASTLETON.

One road that leads from Chapel-en-le-Frith to this place, descends into Castleton dale by the *Winnets*, or *Windgates*, so called from the stream of air that always sweeps through the chasm; but this passage being extremely steep, another road, more circuitous, and adding upwards of a mile to the distance, has been lately carried by the foot of Mam Tor and the Odin Mine. The former road falls in a winding direction betwixt prodigious precipices, dark, rugged, and perpendicular; which presenting themselves at several turns, threaten opposition to all further progress. At one of these turns to the left, a most beautiful view of the dale is suddenly presented to the eye, refreshing it, after being long confined to the tedious uniformity of rude and hideous scenery, with a rich picture of beauty and fertility. As the prospect opens, *Mam Tor*, or the Shivering Mountain, is perceived at some distance on the left hand, towering above the other mountains, and having an elevation of full 800 feet above the level of the valley. The name, *Mam Tor*, is an ancient British appellation; and the Shivering Mountain is a title it has received in modern times, from this circumstance, that being composed of shale and micaceous grit in alternate strata, the shale is continually decomposing under the action of the atmosphere; and falling in large quantities down the face of the precipice, the valley below, to the extent of half a mile, is overwhelmed with its ruins. The lines of an ancient

encampment, which occupied its summit, are still in excellent preservation, with the exception that a number of yards are destroyed by the crumbling of the shale; the noise of which, in its descent, is sometimes so loud as to be heard at Castleton, though about a mile and a half distant.

Near the bottom of Mam Tor is the very ancient mine, named after the chief Saxon Deity, *Odin*. It consists of two levels running horizontally into the mountain: the upper one a cart-gate, by which the ore is brought from the mine; the lower a water-level, to drain the works, which have been carried more than a mile from the entrance. It extends into the mountain where the Blue John is found; and the two mines, in which this valuable fluor spar is procured, are named the Traycliff and Waterbull. The entrance into the former is an arched descent, conducting by numerous steps to the depth of about sixty yards; a confined, yet tolerably easy path afterwards leads into an opening about thirty yards deeper. This forms the commencement of a range of natural caverns, or fissures, in the bowels of the mountain, the termination of which is unknown; though, if the account that has been given of them were worthy of credit, they have been followed to the extent of nearly three miles. These subterraneous passages are extremely rude and difficult: some beautiful snow-white stalactite decorates several parts of them; and beds of a very rich kind of red ochre are found among the productions of this singular mountain.

Beyond Mam Tor, when a view is taken from the Winnets, appears a singular eminence, called *Lose Hill*; and on the summit of the distant range of mountains beyond the dale is seen a very remarkable knob, called *Win Hill*; names derived, as tradition reports, from the event of a battle fought by two contending parties which had been posted at those places.

The *Speedwell Level*, or *Navigation Mine*, has its entrance near the foot of the Winnets, and extends into the mountainous range called the Long Cliff. This level was originally driven in search of lead ore by a company of Staffordshire adventurers, with so little success that, after an expenditure of £14,000, and seven years' ceaseless labour, the works were abandoned by them. The descent is beneath an arched vault, by a flight of 106 steps, which lead to the sough, or level, where a boat is ready for the reception of the visitor, who is carried in it along the stream; the guide impelling the boat by the means of wooden pegs driven into the sides of the rock. At the distance of 650 yards from the entrance the level opens into a tremendous gulph, whose roof and bottom are totally invisible; but across which the canal has been carried by flinging a strong arch over a part of the fissure, where the rocks are least separated. Here leaving the boat, and ascending a stage erected above the level, the attention of the visitor is directed to the dark recesses of the abyss beneath his feet; and firm indeed must be his resolution, if he can contemplate its depths unmoved, or hear them described without an involuntary shudder.

To the depth of ninety feet all is vacuity and gloom; but beyond that commences a pool of stygian waters, not unaptly named the *Bottomless Pit*; whose prodigious range may in some measure be conceived from the circumstance of its having swallowed up more than 40,000 tons of the rubbish occasioned by blasting the rock, without any apparent diminution in its extent. The superfluous water of the level falls through a water gate into this profound caldron with the noise of a rushing torrent. This fissure is said to be nearly 280 yards below the surface of the mountain; and so great is its reach upwards, that rockets of sufficient strength to ascend 450 feet have been fired without rendering the roof visible. The effect of a Bengal light discharged in this most stupendous cavity is extremely magnificent and striking. Beyond the fissure the level has been driven to a great extent; but in this part of it little occurs that is entitled to observation.

Upon descending into the luxuriant vale of *Castleton* a very impressive effect is produced by the contrast it forms with the bleak and elevated tracts that environ it. Its breadth, in its widest part, is two miles, and its length between five and six: the village of *Hope* situated within its limits, with its spire church, forms a very agreeable feature, when the vale is viewed from the descent into it. As the road winds along the declivity, the traveller obtains a prospect of *Castleton*, which appears clustered near the bottom of the steep eminence, at whose foot the famous cavern discloses itself, and whose summit is occupied by the ruins of

the castle that gave name to the place. This castle was a small structure, but a place of great strength, being inaccessible, on account of precipices, on every side except the north; and even here the approach was necessarily made by traverses to obviate the steepness of the ascent. It appears to have originally consisted of a plain wall inclosing an area of moderate dimensions, with two small towers on the north side, and a keep near the south-west corner, being a square tower, measuring 38 feet on the outside, and 21 feet by 19 within the walls; and a great part of this keep is still remaining. Mr. King, who has minutely described this fortress in the sixth volume of the *Archæologia*, imagines it was erected during the Saxon Heptarchy; but others suppose it was built by William Peverel, natural son of the Conqueror; and its ancient appellation of *Peverel's place in the Peke*, countenances this opinion. Whatever was the fact it is certain that Peverell possessed it at the time of the domesday survey, by the name of the Castle of the Peke, with the honor and forest, and thirteen other lordships in the County of Derby. These possessions were forfeited by the grandson of William Peverel, and the Castle was granted by the crown to several persons successively: at length, in the 46th year of Edward III, it was given to his son, John of Gaunt; and from that time it has descended in the same manner as the duchy of Lancaster. The present constable of it is the Duke of Devonshire. The successors of the Peverels, to this day, hold courts of peculiar jurisdiction, in civil cases throughout the principal parts of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

A tournament is reported to have been anciently held here on the following occasion. William (half brother of Pain Peverel), Lord of Whittington, in the County of Salop, had two daughters; one of whom, named Mellet, was no less distinguished by a martial spirit than her father. This appeared from the declaration she made respecting the choice of a husband. She firmly resolved to marry none but a knight of great prowess; and her father, to confirm her purpose, and to procure a number of visitors, invited all the young men who were inclined to enter the lists, to meet at Peverel's Place in the Peke, and there decide their pretensions by the use of arms; declaring, at the same time, that whoever vanquished his competitors, should receive his daughter, with his castle at Whittington, as a reward for his skill and valour. Guarine de Meez, a descendent of the house of Lorraine, and an ancestor of the lords Fitz-Warrine, hearing this report, repaired to the place above-mentioned, and there engaged with a son of the King of Scotland, and also with a Baron of Burgoyne, and vanquishing them both obtained the prize for which he fought.

The *Peak Cavern*, or the Devil's Cave, is one of the principal wonders of Derbyshire. It is approached by a path along the side of a rivulet, which issues from the cavern; the path leading first to a deep and gloomy recess amidst rocks that rise to a vast height on each side. On the summit towards the left, and close to the edge of the precipice, the mouldering ruins of the Peak Castle appear aloft in the air; and at the foot of

the rock, on the opposite side, the cavern opens with extraordinary magnificence. Its mouth is a stupendous canopy of unpillared rock, exhibiting the appearance of a depressed arch, regular in its structure, and extending in width 120 feet, in height 42, and in receding depth about 90. Within this gulph some twine-makers have established their manufactory and residence; and the combination of their machines and rude dwellings with the sublime features of the natural scenery, has a very singular effect. Proceeding about thirty yards, the roof becomes lower, and a gentle descent conducts by a detached rock, to the interior entrance of this tremendous hollow. Here the blaze of day, which has been gradually softening, wholly disappears, and the further passage must be explored by torch light. The way now becomes low and confined, and the visitor is obliged to proceed in a stooping posture, twenty or thirty yards, when a spacious opening, called the *Bell House* from its form, in the rocks above his head, again permits him to stand upright. Beyond this the cavern seems to be entirely closed in every part; but, upon a near approach to the rock, a low passage under it, almost full of water, is discovered. This opening is just large enough to admit a small boat; but the passenger is obliged to lie down in it, while it is pushed to the distance of about fourteen yards under the rock, which in one part descends to within eighteen or twenty inches from the water. Beyond the water a spacious vacuity, 220 feet in length, 200 feet broad, and in some parts 120 feet high, opens in the bosom of the rocks; but, from the want of light, neither the distant sides,

nor the roof of it can be seen. In the passage at the extremity of this vast cavern, the stream, which flows along it, spreads into what is called the *Second water*: this can generally be passed on foot, but sometimes the assistance of the guide is necessary. Near the termination of this passage is an aperture distinguished by the name of *Roger Rain's House*, from this circumstance, that water is incessantly falling in large drops through the crevices of the roof. Beyond this opens another fearful hollow called the *Chancel*, where the rocks appear much broken and dislocated, and large masses of stalactite incrust the sides and prominent parts of them. Here the stranger is generally surprised by a concert, which bursts from the upper part of the chasm; and this being unexpected, and issuing from a quarter where no object can be seen, in a place where all is still as death, and every thing around calculated to awaken attention, and powerfully impress the imagination with solemn ideas, can scarcely be heard without that mingled emotion of fear and pleasure, astonishment and delight, which is one of the most interesting feelings of the mind. At the conclusion of the strain, the choristers become visible, and eight or ten women and children, who had clambered up by a steep ascent, appear ranged in a hollow of the rock, about fifty feet above the station of the spectator. From the chancel the path leads to the *Devil's Cellar*, and thence, by a gradual descent about 150 feet in length, to the *Half-way House*; after which it proceeds to a vast concavity in the rock resembling a bell in shape, and thence denominated the *Great Tom of Lin-*

coln. The distance from this point to the termination of the cavern is not considerable: its whole length is 750 yards, and its depth from the surface of the mountain about 207. It ranges entirely in limestone strata, which are full of marine exuviae, and occasionally exhibit an intermixture of chert. In extremely wet weather this cavern cannot be visited, as the water fills up a great part of it, and rises to a considerable height, even near the entrance; at other times the access is not very difficult. A curious effect is produced by a blast, or the explosion of a small quantity of gunpowder wedged into the rock in the inner part of the cave: the sound is heard rolling along the roof and sides like a heavy peal of overwhelming thunder. The effect of the light also, which gradually increases, and illuminates the rocks, upon returning from the recesses of the cavern, is particularly impressive; and the eye unaccustomed to such a scene as is here presented, never beholds it without lively emotions of pleasure.

Bagshaw Cavern, the property of Sir W. C. Bagshaw, discovered a few years ago near the village of Bradwell, two miles south-east of Castleton, is of very considerable extent. The entrance into it is a descent of more than 100 steps: an intermitting spring is found in it: it has no very spacious cavities; but, unlike the cavern at Castleton, it is adorned with a multitude of beautiful stalacties in the form of columns, and a profusion of brilliant crystallizations, some of them as white as snow.

In the church at Castleton is a mural tablet, erected in memory of Mr. Micah Hall, an eminent attorney.

late of this village, a person remarkable for his scepticism on religious subjects, as may be inferred from the following singular epitaph, which, with the addition of his age and the time of his death, he desired to have engraven on his monument.

To the memory of
MICAH HALL, Gent,
Attorney at Law,
who died the 14th of May, 1801,
Aged 79 Years

What I was you know not ;
What I am you know not ;
Whither I am gone you know not ;
Go about your business.

As it was not thought proper that such an epitaph should appear in the vernacular tongue, the following Latin translation, which does no great credit to the abilities of the translator, was substituted for it.

Quid eram nescitis ;
Quid sum nescitis ;
Ubi abii nescitis ;
Valete.

◆
FINIS.